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Students tackle culture of campus sexual assault

By **DIVA PAREKH**
Copy Editor

Since September, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has worked to replace Obama-era policies on campus sexual assault. In light of these developments, the Center for Health Education & Wellness (CHEW) and the Sexual Assault Resource Unit (SARU) hosted a series of workshops which aimed to teach students about Title IX and gender violence.

According to SARU Co-President Dani Pitkoff, discussions on hosting the event started as early as last semester. However,

"It feels good to see students care about changing the environment on our campus."

— **DANI PITKOFF,**
SARU CO-PRESIDENT

Carly Mee gave a keynote speech on changes colleges have implemented since DeVos' withdrawal of these policies.

According to Mee, no colleges have made an official announcement that they will be adhering to the interim guidelines, and two have announced that they will be adhering to the Obama-era guidelines.

Senior Alizay Jalisi, president of Hopkins Feminists, expressed concern about the ambiguity surrounding potential changes in the Hopkins sexual misconduct policy.

"I'm sure that within the last month in which Hopkins has re-

mained ambiguous about its stance, there are sexual assault cases that have happened and that have not been reported," Jalisi said, "I think that's extremely problematic."

Sophomore Rachel Silberman highlighted concerns she has about the impact of the interim guidelines. While she believes it is important to protect those wrongfully accused of sexual misconduct, she said that statistics show that a very small percentage of allegations are false.

SEE **ACTIVISM**, PAGE A4



COURTESY OF SHARON FARMER

The Bloomberg School of Public Health hosted a panel of politicians and public health professionals who shed light on the national opioid crisis.

Clinton outlines steps to address the opioid crisis

By **KATY WILNER**
For *The News-Letter*

Former U.S. President Bill Clinton participated in a panel that addressed the national opioid crisis at the Bloomberg School of Public Health on Monday.

The crisis, which the Trump administration recently labelled a public health emergency, has claimed thousands of American lives during the past decade and shows no signs of stopping. Trump's announcement, while underscoring the severity of the crisis, does not allocate any new funds toward a solution.

The Clinton Foundation

and the School of Public Health co-hosted a panel of experts as part of a day-long series. Throughout the day a range of speakers discussed the growing problem of the opioid epidemic. Notable speakers from the series included Congressman Elijah Cummings D-MD and Baltimore City Health Commissioner Leana Wen.

Clinton said that he was optimistic about the future of the crisis because the country is becoming better informed and more motivated to find solutions.

"This is the first drug epidemic where we are acting like a grown-up country and we're treating it

like a public health problem instead of primarily a criminal justice problem," he said.

According to Clinton, more than 64,000 Americans died of drug overdoses in 2016, and half of those deaths were related to opioid use. To put these numbers into perspective, he added that more people have died from drug over-

doses in the past year than gun-related homicides or car crashes.

Since 2014, the Clinton Foundation has worked alongside the School of Public Health to gather data on opioid use. This month, they released "The Opioid Epidemic: From Evidence to Impact," a report in which they outlined

SEE **CLINTON**, PAGE A4

University plans to streamline online career services

By **SARAH Y. KIM**
News & Features Editor

The Office of the Provost is developing a new online career services platform that will be available to all Hopkins students as part of an effort to consolidate career services across the University's nine schools.

Currently, each school is responsible for providing its own career services. Different online career platforms are available to students, depending on which school they attend. For example, students at Homewood use Handshake, while those at the Carey Business School use Symplicity.

Some students who are enrolled in more than one school may have to navigate multiple platforms, while other students may attend a school that does not offer such services. Students can only access the career services offered by the school they attend.

Kathy Bovard, director of coaching and education for the Carey Business School's Career Development Team, hopes that the new platform will improve coordination between each school's career center and make the University's career services more cohesive.

Bovard pointed to disparities in staffing and

resources between the different career centers, describing those at divisions like the School of Nursing and the School of Education as "one-person operations."

"Many of our students didn't have access to foundational resources and information," she said.

The new University-wide platform is expected to launch in the 2018-19 academic year, after the administration chooses a vendor. Handshake and Symplicity are top candidates, although other vendors are being considered.

In September, the University introduced a new

career planning website accessible to all nine schools, which provides a step-by-step approach to career planning for various disciplines.

Bovard described the website as a temporary solution, adding that resources on it will be incorporated into the University-wide platform next year. She explained that the resources on the new platform will be customizable based on the user's career interests and prospective degree.

"The website is just a static information resource for now," she said. "That's one initiative. Moving to a

SEE **CAREER**, PAGE A5

Rising crime rate prompts greater security measures



FILE PHOTO

The University is employing more security guards to patrol Charles Village.

By **ALYSSA WOODEN & JAMIE SCHARF**
News & Features Editor
For *The News-Letter*

In light of the recent increase in armed and unarmed robberies near Homewood campus, the University plans to strengthen its security measures. In an email sent on Oct. 23, University President Ronald J. Daniels emphasized the importance of a "visible security presence" and neighborhood improvement.

Some students are pleased with the University's efforts to reduce crime, while others question whether these measures will effectively address the root of the problem.

The University is planning to employ more security guards and off-duty police officers, expand the patrol area and improve lighting and security cam-

era coverage. Hopkins will also deploy a special response unit made up of former officers.

Daniels also wrote that the University aims to collaborate more closely with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) as well as "nurture and invest in neighborhoods" around campus such as Charles Village and Remington.

Director of Media Relations Tracey Reeves elaborated on the University's efforts to increase campus security.

"We have about 50 percent more foot and car patrols around campus every night than we did a few years ago," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

She added that campus security officers are responsible for observing and reporting suspicious activity, while armed off-duty police officers have the authority

SEE **SECURITY**, PAGE A5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Bubble tea at Teavolve Café



If you're craving some quality bubble tea and brunch food, take a trip to Teavolve Café & Lounge in Harbor East. **YOUR WEEKEND, PAGE B2**

Farewell, Baltimore City Paper

The Editorial Board reflects on the closing of *The City Paper*, which has served Baltimore for the past 40 years. **EDITORIALS, PAGE A10**

An artist's powerful paintbrush

Artist and activist Daniel Arzola uses his art to bring awareness to violent discrimination against the LGBTQ community. **ARTS, PAGE B3**

NEWS & FEATURES

SGA debates measures to reduce student stress

By **GILLIAN LELCHUK**
Magazine Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) discussed student organization resources and mental health at their weekly meeting on Tuesday.

The meeting opened with an introduction from Mikhail Osanov and Linda Tchernyshyov, representatives from the Graduate Representative Organization (GRO). They explained that GRO serves a similar purpose to SGA but for graduate students at Homewood Campus, and that they hope to collaborate with SGA in the future.

Executive Vice President AJ Tsang gave a recap of Well-Fest, which was held on Friday in Levering Courtyard. Tsang said that the event was well-attended and provided information about different mental health resources on campus.

Sophomore Class President Anthony Boutros discussed the Civic Engagement Committee's plans to host Munk debates, a style of policy debate, with IDEAL, a nonpartisan political awareness group on campus. These debates would potentially feature two experts in a particular field, each partnered with a student to argue either side of an issue.

SGA also welcomed Assistant Director of Student Organizations Clifton E. Shambry, Jr. and senior Kat Gross, a student organization programming intern, both from the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement, who gave a presentation on the Hopkins Groups website.

Shambry and Gross reviewed the features on the website, such as facilitating elections and managing documents for student groups, and also recommended that SGA work with their office to keep their own web page up to date.

"The way that we come into play is by supporting the SGA and GRO with the recognition process," Shambry said.

Next Tsang announced that after receiving about 20 applications for the Judiciary Committee,

the Internal Affairs Committee will narrow the list down to five to bring to the SGA meeting next week. At the meeting they will choose the two newest members of the Judiciary Committee from this shortlist.

Junior Class President Ash Panakam reviewed the Stop the Stigma funding bill. The Health and Safety Committee plans to host a number of events and giveaways starting after Thanksgiving and continuing through reading period to raise awareness and reduce the stigma around mental health.

Panakam elaborated on the motivations behind the bill.

"There is a pretty high prevalence of mental health issues, however severe, on campus that people typically don't deal with," Panakam

said. "It's commonly seen as a form of weakness, and that's something that we want to change."

She also said there are not enough existing resources for mental health on campus and that Health and Safety intends for Stop the Stigma to supplement the University's current resources.

She added that they are continually pushing for the Counseling Center to implement online scheduling for students who are not able or might not want to call to make an appointment during business hours.

"Sometimes people realize they need help late at night or when the Counseling Center isn't open," Panakam said. "By the time the daytime rolls around, they might not really want to do it anymore."

According to Panakam, the Stop the Stigma campaign will also provide healthy snacks during reading period for students and will continue working with the meditation app Calm.

They will also create and distribute stickers that relate mental health with Hopkins and host a Semicolon event to promote suicide awareness. In addition, Stop the Stigma will pass out fortune cookies that contain Hopkins-specific or motivational messages inside.

SGA members discussed the nuances of the various messages proposed for the fortunes inside the cookies, particularly the phrase, "Be the change you want to see on Blackboard" and its relevance to Stop the Stigma's goals.

Senior Class Senator Trevor Lee explained the thinking behind this and other phrases.

"We take a couple of famous quotes and swap a couple of words out," he said. "Some of these definitely are not directly related to mental health and well-being necessarily."

Sophomore Class Senator Alex Walinkas suggested that the fortune cookies not reference school or work at all.

"Honestly, maybe just don't even make them about grades," she said. "Why remind people of that?"

Freshman Class President Sam Schatmeyer echoed this sentiment and advocated for keeping the messages funny.

"Dreams don't work unless you do... is pretty intense for a fortune cookie," he said.

SGA voted to pass the Stop the Stigma funding bill unanimously on the contingency that they will work out the exact wording of the fortune cookie phrases later.

To conclude the meeting, Boutros suggested that students try to stop trivializing mental health issues.

"I have seen and heard people either use the word 'suicide' or 'I want to kill myself,'" he said. "It's just become normalized in our discussions and our attitudes and our culture... If we hear it, let's listen, see if that person is okay."

Well-Fest raises awareness for mental health

By **SARAH Y. KIM**
News & Features Editor

Well-Fest, an annual event that aims to spread awareness about mental health resources at Hopkins, took place for the second year at Levering Courtyard on Friday, Oct. 27.

The Student Government Association (SGA) hosted the event, which brought together volunteers and staff from different mental health groups including Active Minds, A Place to Talk (APTT), the Center for Health Education Wellness (CHEW) and the Counseling Center.

The different groups set up booths, distributed pamphlets and had free giveaways which included candy, fruit and condoms. One booth had a board on which students posted recommendations on how to improve mental health resources.

Last year, Well-Fest was held in early September, giving organizers only two

weeks to put the event together and a few days to advertise. This year, SGA began organizing the event a month and a half in advance and advertised it for two weeks via social media.

Executive Vice President of the SGA AJ Tsang said that the timing of the event this year was appropriate for students dealing with stress.

"It's midterm season. We're nearing finals," he said. "It's a good time to boost student morale."

The event was also held on the Freshman Quad last year. Tsang said that SGA relocated the event to make it more widely accessible.

In addition to learning



COURTESY OF SARAH Y. KIM
Mental health and wellness groups set up tables and booths in Levering Courtyard last Friday.

about what mental health resources are available, students had the opportunity to learn how to get involved with mental health groups.

Xuanjia Fan, a sophomore who volunteered at the event for CHEW, said that students currently lack awareness about these resources.

While he believes that Levering Courtyard was a suitable location, Fan believes advertising could have been more rigorous.

"There's not enough ad-

vertisement of these clubs and these resource that students have," Fan said.

The Student Health and Wellness Center (HelWell) also had a booth. According to Alexandra Morrel, a certified family nurse practitioner who works at HelWell, HelWell was not invited last year.

"When people are thinking about mental health we're not on top of the list," she said. "People also confuse us with CHEW."

She clarified that while CHEW is focused on health education, HelWell is a clinic consisting of nurse practitioners, nurses and physicians.

"We're passionate about our students' health, and physical and mental health are so closely combined," Morrel said. "If you have some mental health issues it can affect your physical health as well."

Morrel believes that many students at Hopkins overexert themselves at the expense of their mental and physical well-being. She said that Well-Fest is important for promoting self-care.

"You're going to be a better student if you are taking care of yourself in all manners: enjoying times with friends, sleeping, eating, exercise," Morrel said.

Freshmen Taisse Yang and Noor Nassar were not aware of Well-Fest until they happened to pass by Levering Courtyard. They appreciated the event for helping familiarize them with resources on campus.

"A lot of people deal with mental health issues, and they're more common than people think," Yang said.

Nassar agreed, adding that stigma around mental health problems makes students reluctant to seek out these resources.

"We don't want to take the time out... to relax and de-stress, because we think that's taking away from time we can use to do something more productive," she said. "In reality it's the same level of importance."

Tsang hopes that similar awareness events will be held throughout the year.

"Every semester, every year, students can not only learn about but also get more involved with mental health resources on campus," he said.

Prof. talks China-Latin America relations



DAVID SAVELIEV/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Professor Gallagher discussed the recent China boom in Latin America.

By **ALYSSA WOODEN**
News & Features Editor

Boston University Professor of Global Development Policy Kevin Gallagher gave a lecture titled "What is Latin America's China Plan?" in Mergenthaler Hall on Monday. In his talk, which was hosted by the sociology department, Gallagher discussed China's recent investments in Latin American countries.

"We're in a little bit of a new phase for China and Latin America economically," he said. "Latin America has to step up to the plate and do something about it, or they're not going to be able to take advantage of it."

According to Gallagher, China was not on the radar of Latin American countries in 1999, but by 2013, it became the primary trading destination for South America and secondary destination for most of Mexico and Central America.

He further explained that the recent boom in Latin America mirrors a similar boom following the Industrial Revolution in the U.S. and Europe, when people moved from the countryside to the city and began importing more commodities.

"They needed a lot of agricultural goods, textiles and raw materials from the rest of the world for the industrialization process," Gallagher said. "Latin America... had a lot of that silver and gold and coffee, or at least the conditions to grow some of these things."

Gallagher elaborated that in addition to importing, these modernizing

countries also invested heavily in Latin America in order to increase the amount of commodities that region could produce.

Recently, China has been investing both by developing new plants in the region and by merging with and acquiring Latin American companies. He added that these investments have primarily been in natural resources and infrastructure.

"We estimate that there are about \$170 billion worth of funds across the world in different regions," Gallagher said. "Latin America is the second largest."

Gallagher explained that after the 2008 financial crisis, higher interest rates in Latin America caused China to invest more in the region.

"What [China was] doing was largely borrowing in U.S. dollars at low interest rates and reinvesting in countries like Peru, Chile, Colombia and especially Brazil where interest rates were eight to 14 percent," he said.

According to Gallagher, the China Development Bank is the ninth largest bank in the world and has been a core component of Chinese economic growth. Gallagher said that in 2003 and 2004, the China Development Bank began loaning money to foreign governments for public projects similar to other financial institutions such as the World Bank, which provides funding for developing countries.

"They've loaned about 160 billion dollars to Latin American governments, which is more than the World Bank," he said. "They're the biggest

developmental financier in Latin America."

Gallagher also noted that increases in carbon emissions and water use in Latin America can be attributed to China's involvement.

"Exports to China are almost twice as carbon intensive and almost 10 times as water intensive as general economic activity in Latin America," he said.

Additionally, areas in which China is investing are often biologically diverse and hotspots of indigenous peoples, which Gallagher said can create problems.

Gallagher also discussed how changes in the Chinese economy may cause them to import more commodities from Latin America.

He explained that this is particularly important as commodities prices have been declining globally since 2013.

Gallagher concluded the talk by saying that although Latin America has suffered from a difficult political and economic landscape in the past, the China boom gives them a new opportunity.

"We've got growth in the region for the first time in two and a half years," he said. "Can they capitalize on this new opportunity with the Chinese or, like the Industrial Revolution with the UK and with the United States, will they take one or two steps back?"

Freshman Sabrina Sussman attended the event to gain a better understanding of Latin America.

"I haven't really focused on Latin America in my studies so it was interesting to see how China investment caused the boom," she said.

Errata: Oct. 26 Edition

In the Oct. 26, 2017 edition of *The News-Letter*, in the article "Health professionals give minorities career advice," Diego Luna was originally misidentified as Diego Cardona.

The News-Letter regrets this error.

Your Maryland radio show host debuts novel

By **KAREN WANG**
Staff Writer

WYPR radio host and author Ric Cottom spoke about Maryland history at Barnes & Noble on Sunday. His book *Your Maryland: Little-Known Histories from the Shores of the Chesapeake to the Foothills of the Allegheny Mountains* and radio show *Your Maryland*, focus on human-interest stories related to Maryland's history. His book is a collection of his favorite stories from the show.

Cottom, who is also the former editor of the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, was offered the opportunity to write and host *Your Maryland* in 2002.

Cottom shared a few stories from his program, like one involving the War of 1812 clipper ship *Chasseur*, which was built at Fells Point. Cottom explained that the captain of the ship, Thomas Boyle, captured a British ship during a privateer voyage that did not fight back.

Boyle gave the captain of the British ship a note to be delivered to Lloyd's of London, the center of maritime insurance in England. According to Cottom, the note proclaimed that all British ports had been blockaded, causing the British Royal Navy to send every available ship after Boyle, who continued to capture Navy ships and claim prizes for the United States.

"He had captured or sunk a million and a half dollars worth of British shipping, the largest amount of anyone in the war. [It was] the greatest privateer voyage in the war of 1812," Cottom said. "The ship took on another name, and everybody called it the *Pride of Baltimore*."

Cottom explained that although his program is short, production takes time and effort because of the time constraints.

While writing his first story about a slave revolt, Cottom learned how to write concisely and leave time for an outro and a transition into the next program.

"My producer taught me how to cut repetition in places where I did not know there was repetition," Cottom said. "You can use your voice [and] inflection to tell people things without taking up time in the page. You have to do something called buffing — you have to go through and read [the draft] several times and make you sure you don't find any tongue-twisters."

He illustrated his writing process by sharing the story of Jerry Leiber, a lyricist who co-wrote the song "Hound Dog." Leiber grew up in Baltimore and was attacked by a group of Polish children when he was 10 years old because he was Jewish.

Leiber later moved to Los Angeles, where he wrote Elvis Presley's song with his partner Mike Stoller.

"To tell that story, I have to get you interested in Jerry Leiber right away. I have to tell you that he's tough, doesn't take no for an answer [and] doesn't quit," Cottom said. "I have to do it in about three-quarters of a page of the manuscript."

Cottom stated that first became interested in history when he discovered

the works of Bruce Catton, a Civil War historian.

"Catton was wonderful because he grew up in Michigan [in the early 20th century], and he heard the stories of these men who went off to war in 1861," Cottom said. "His writing is so vivid, so compelling."

Cottom additionally stated that he believes that the stories themselves are the most important in disseminating historical knowledge.

"History now has become argumentative and political; it's race, class, gender, arguments. I found when I was the editor of *Maryland Historical Magazine*, young scholars were afraid to challenge people in their field, because they were afraid of ruining their careers," Cottom said. "That's not how we should be."

Cottom elaborated on the way his book deals with history.

"All I'm doing is telling you stories, because I want you to get interested so you go out and look up stuff yourself," he said.

By **PETER JI**
Senior Staff Writer

Thiruvendran Vignarajah, the Deputy Attorney General for the State of Maryland and candidate for State's Attorney for Baltimore City, gave a talk called *Justice for All* in the Age of Trump. The event was hosted by the Hopkins College Democrats on Wednesday.

Vignarajah addressed topics like the rollback of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Trump's travel ban.

An immigrant from Sri Lanka, Vignarajah attended Yale University and Harvard Law School. He teaches crime policy and constitutional law at Hopkins and the University of Maryland Law School.

Recently, President Trump has announced that he will rescind DACA, which offers protections to undocumented immigrants who arrived in the country as children. The program was started as an executive order by President Obama.

"[Trump] has blamed them for crime in places like

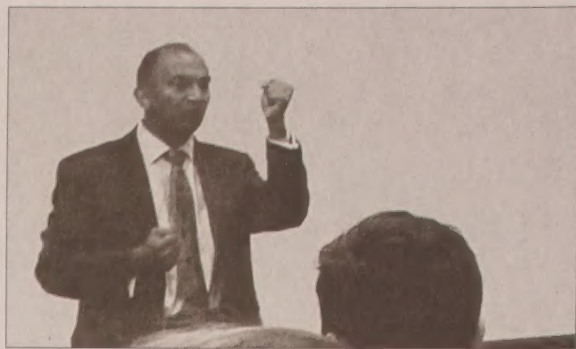
Baltimore and across the country. He has suggested that undocumented immigrants drive the challenges that he believes has plagued our country, our economy and our city," he said.

Vignarajah argued that immigration enforcement today is criminal in nature, noting that deportations were previously run by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, not the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"Back then you didn't have dissenting lawmen who were arbitrarily stopping anyone who was under suspicion of being in the country unlawfully, using their police powers to try to enforce immigration laws," he said. "Today in 2017, the civil immigration apparatus of our country is virtually indistinguishable from our criminal apparatus."

For his campaign for the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, Vignarajah pledged to run an office that is transparent and accountable — traits that he says are missing in the nation's highest office.

"What Donald Trump is



COURTESY OF PETER JI

Vignarajah is running to become the State's Attorney for Baltimore City.

doing, perhaps as well as any politician in the history of this great nation, is to engage in spreading an element of fear and disinformation," he said. "He targets groups that cannot stand out and speak out for themselves."

He believes in looking at the legislative history of a law, beyond what is written on the page.

He used President Trump's first travel ban, which targeted Muslim-majority countries, as an example.

"If the law says 'we intend to discriminate,' then perhaps you're allowed to strike it down as discriminatory," he said.

The President is a single voice, Vignarajah argued, and therefore his comments about an executive order should be considered in federal court.

He also addressed the rising crime rate in Baltimore, promising progressive solutions to the problem rather than the mandatory sentencing and zero tolerance methods that he says have failed.

He said that President Trump's attacks on judges have increased support for harsher sentencing.

"Trump has made it fashionable to point the finger at judges, and it has caught fire here," he said.

Homewood Museum curator talks depictions of slave homes in film



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK

Julia Rose began her research in 2003 with films like *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

By **JACOB TOOK**
News & Features Editor

Director of the Homewood Museum Julie Rose gave a presentation on the depiction of slave dwellings in Hollywood film and media during the 20th century on Monday. Her talk was the final event in the Museum's Fall 2017 Architectural Lecture Series.

In her research, Rose analyzed a selection of films and television shows that clearly show the buildings in which slaves lived. She examined the depictions of those buildings to determine whether the idea of slave life reflected in media is accurate and how that idea can influence audiences' perceptions of slavery.

Rose explained that there has been a recent shift to reevaluate the manner in which museums address slavery, adding that during the '70s and '80s, many museums were criticized for their biased portrayals of slave life.

"There are trends now in museums that speak to this issue of bringing marginalized populations' stories from the margins into center focus," she said.

According to Rose, the rise of feminism in the late 20th century prompted many museum curators to rethink what kinds of perspectives they needed to include in exhibits and presentations of slave life.

Rose's research began in 2003, when she watched some films on VHS that de-

picted aspects of slavery.

"Curators were very much influenced by popular culture in what our vision was of slave life and how that was created through movies," she said. "I went about investigating our collective understanding, our national narrative of what slave life looked like, by using film."

She added that she is not a film critic but sees her work as one way of rethinking the history of marginalized and subjugated people.

Rose discussed a selection of almost 30 films, including many adaptations of the acclaimed novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which she said had a large influence on the way Americans perceived slavery.

The earliest film she examined was Edwin Porter's 1903 version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and she recently added films like *Django Unchained* and *12 Years a Slave*, which won the 2014 Academy Award for Best Picture.

She also considered well-known films like Shirley Temple's *The Littlest Rebel*, Disney's *Song of the South* and the television show *Roots*.

While many films depict some aspects of slave life, Rose said that she only included those which feature slave dwellings, the focus of her research.

"Hollywood rarely dealt with slave life as a primary subject for their films, and this is reflected in the scant number of films where slave cabins are clearly represented," she said.

She added that while these dwellings were usually depicted as fiction, they were nevertheless largely accepted by American audiences as true representations of what slavery was like.

Additionally, Rose elaborated on the importance of the home in her research. She said that it was a way of lending moral power to characters and that living space is a part of each person's identity.

"Hollywood movie sets and scenes of home places helped to develop and define film characters," she said. "The slave dwellings in these films stand to symbolize the home place as a sanctuary."

The depiction of slave dwellings in films, Rose said, reflects Hollywood's views on the history of slavery. She added that we should question the representation of that history.

"Film representations of slave dwellings were often representations of American collective memory in slave life, but we need to ask and we need to be critical,"

she said. "Are they accurate? Are they idealized? Are they political, nostalgic?"

Sophomore Caroline West said that she expected Rose to offer more political and social analysis of the films and how slave dwellings are represented, but her research was primarily architectural.

"It seemed like such a detached, almost cold way of analyzing something that is so horrific," West said. "In some ways that was a little bit disturbing to me, that you could distill it down into these descriptive analyses without acknowledging the horrific mentality of enslavement."

West said that the section of Rose's research in which she considered some of Shirley Temple's films offered the most insight on the social and political implications of how slave dwellings were depicted.

In *The Littlest Rebel*, the house of a wealthy white family in the South is burned down by the Union army, forcing them to stay in a slave cabin.

Rose pointed out the unusually lavish decorations in the cabin that contrasted with the typically sparse interior that is usually depicted in such films.

"Because they're white, they can't be degraded, and so even though they're living in a slave cabin they made it so lavish and beautiful," West said. "Obviously that has a lot of connections to racism in general and the prioritization of depicting whites in a positive way on film, in such a way that you feel sympathy for them."

While West acknowledged that Rose focused on architecture of slave dwellings because that is her area of expertise, she questioned whether it is possible to examine slavery objectively. West said that it may be necessary to offer additional social and political analysis.

"The practice is so clearly wrong and inhumane that to some degree it seems very wrong to try to distill it into discrete parts," she said. "That is almost a way of obscuring its really vile nature."

Miss Shirley's

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NEWS & FEATURES

Should the U.S. modernize its nuclear weapons?



COURTESY OF VALERIE CHAVEZ

Professors debated whether or not America should expand its nuclear weapons arsenal.

By VALERIE CHAVEZ
Senior Staff Writer

The Alexander Hamilton Society hosted a debate between professors followed by a Q&A session on whether the U.S. should modernize or abolish its nuclear weapon programs on Wednesday night.

Guest speaker Matthew Kroenig, associate professor of government at Georgetown University, argued on behalf of modernization, while Daniel Deudney, associate professor of political science at Hopkins, spoke against developing new nuclear weapons. Steven David, professor of political science at Hopkins, served as moderator.

Kroenig opened the debate, highlighting the role of nuclear weapons in deterring international conflicts. He said that the end goal of developing weapons is to prevent, not start, war.

"We haven't had conflict among major powers since 1945. Most international relations scholars believe that it is in large part due to nuclear weapons," Kroenig said.

He said that modernizing weapons has become necessary due to increasing tensions between the U.S. and rival powers like Russia and North Korea. He pointed out that the majority of American nuclear weapons were developed in the 1970s and '80s and compared the need to modernize nuclear weapons to that of updating old cars.

"Unfortunately times are changing. Great power politics are reemerging. The nuclear threat is worse than it has been probably since the late 1980s," Kroenig said. "We need to start taking nuclear deterrence and our nuclear weapons policy seriously again."

In his counter points, Deudney asserted that there is no way to return to a world without nuclear weapons and recommended a "two-sided approach."

"On one side, we need to maintain readiness to deter various rivals," he said. "On the other hand we need to attempt to persuade other states that relying on nuclear weapons to resolve international conflicts is a fundamentally intolerable situation, and we need to move resolutely towards a world where this is not the case."

Deudney emphasized the destructive power of nuclear weapons and the potential unreliability of those who control them.

"Humans in the past were like children playing with matches. Today humans are like children playing with flame throwers," Deudney said. "The consequences are too great."

The moderator, David, pressed each of the debaters to elaborate on their arguments. He asked Kroenig to justify the budget that would go into updating the nation's nuclear weapons.

"We have a lot of problems here at home. The city of Baltimore is decaying, there are budget issues and healthcare issues. Americans already have tons of weapons," David said, "It is unthinkable that anyone out

not necessarily know how large the U.S. arsenal is and that they might still attempt a nuclear attack. He added that the cost of modernizing the nation's nuclear weapons would make up only five percent of the defense budget.

"Is five percent too much to spend on the ultimate security guarantee for the U.S. and the entire free world?" he said.

David also asked Deud-

there could disarm the American arsenal, so why do we need to spend so much money if other countries can't attack us?"

Kroenig addressed David's questions by first noting that other countries might

ney to defend his stance which called for alternatives to nuclear weapons. In response, Deudney emphasized the need to enhance diplomacy.

President of the Alexander Hamilton Society and senior Ben Gaal reflected on the debate, saying that both speakers articulated their points effectively. He was also pleased with student engagement.

"It's great that we were able to bring in a speaker from another campus, who has a completely different perspective than a Hopkins professor, and were able to engage in a civil debate," Gaal said. "Students were willing to listen to both sides... we're proud that we were able to put on an event like that."

Freshman Kristofer Madu said that the debate was informative.

"The expositions on the topic that were provided by both of the participants were enlightening," Madu said. "That's the main point of a debate."

Workshops shed light on sexual assault

ACTIVISM, FROM A4

"The point of Title IX is to focus on survivors and people who are discriminated against within education, including women," Silverman said. "The focus is now on the accused."

Sophomore Madelynn Wellons urged the University administration to clarify their policies on campus sexual misconduct in a school-wide message, adding that rescinding the Dear Colleague Letter has made it difficult for survivors to feel comfortable reporting to the school.

"Having President Daniels or Vice Provost Kumar put out a statement saying that they're going to be following the guidelines of the Dear Colleague Letter and not changing their policies would help more survivors feel at ease," she said.

CHEW Sexual Violence Prevention & Education Coordinator Alyse Campbell discussed how the University plans to respond in an email to *The News-Letter*.

"I understand the University is not planning on making any changes in response to the rescinding," Campbell wrote. "Additionally, the University is planning to send a broad communication about its position on the new guidelines."

Following the federal policy shift, SARU asserted that their approach to sexual misconduct at Hopkins will not change.

"As co-director of SARU, I want to emphasize that the work that we're doing is staying the exact same," Pitkoff said. "If anything, we're working harder to make sure that people know what their rights are under Title IX."

Nevertheless, seeing the response the event received, Pitkoff was optimistic that the Hopkins student body would continue to be engaged in advocating for survivors of sexual assault.

"It feels good to see students care about changing the environment on our campus and care enough to sit through a few hours of workshops to learn exactly how to do that," she said.

"It was a really amazing call on students right now to be the activists."

The event held four workshops: Men Can Stop Rape; FORCE: Upsetting Rape Culture; TurnAround, Inc.; and Network for Victim Recovery of D.C. (NVRDC).

According to Wellons, while FORCE and Men Can Stop Rape were focused on sexual assault prevention and how to help support survivors and their stories, NVRDC and TurnAround addressed advocacy at colleges and discussed the complexities of individual cases.

Jeremy Hardy, the training and technical assistance co-

ordinator for Men Can Stop Rape, led the Men Can Stop Rape workshop. It focused on encouraging students to adopt healthy attitudes toward masculinity in order to prevent sexual violence.

Jalisi attended Men Can Stop Rape and appreciated that the conversation tackled gender stereotypes.

"I wanted to take a look at the issue of sexual assault and how it relates to the way that we foster masculinity within our society," Jalisi said. "When discussing issues related to gender equity, it's really important to include people of all genders in the dialogue."

The FORCE workshop, led by FORCE Co-Founder Hannah Brancato, focused on the Monument Quilt and the importance of creating safe spaces for sexual assault survivors and facilitating healing.

NVRDC was led by Staff Attorneys Ruth Perrin and Maggie Schmidt, who work with on-campus Title IX hearings, criminal cases of sexual misconduct and civil protection order hearings.

Junior Bystander Intervention Trainer Karina Rahaman attended the NVRDC workshop and talked about how it helped her understand the complexities of

reporting, particularly with little to no concrete evidence.

"Just from last year to this year, students are definitely more aware and more engaged," Rahaman said. "That has less to do with the campus environment and more to do with the way things are changing on a national level."

The TurnAround, Inc. workshop was led by Director of Advocacy and Emergency Services Gail Reid.

TurnAround is a Baltimore-based sexual assault crisis center that assists survivors of sexual assault with criminal proceedings and legal action.

Reid spoke in detail about the criminal investigation process with sexual assault cases.

She discussed how Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE) nurses can conduct anonymous examinations and how emergency room medical staff are not required to report sexual assault cases to the police unless the survivor explicitly asks them to.

Another issue that was focused on in the TurnAround workshop was the legislative challenge associated with SAFE kits, the backlog of processing them and the problems that arise from how many SAFE kits eventually get lost before they can be processed.

Wellons appreciated the workshops and talked about the importance of students engaging in similar events.

"Most people will at some point in their lives have someone who will come to them saying they've been sexually assaulted," she said. "Don't keep pressing them for a lot of details. Just tell them that it's not their fault and that you believe them. Give them all their options, don't make choices for them."

Clinton outlines steps to address opioid crisis

CLINTON, FROM A1

strategies for addressing opioid use in America.

Increasing opioid use is a widespread crisis that affects a wide range of communities, regardless of race or class, though Clinton said that many people perceive the crisis to be more important because it originated in rural white communities.

While he conceded that there may be truth to that statement, he added that the crisis is more widespread because opioids are easier to obtain. Many people begin abusing opioids after taking prescription painkillers or other medications.

He said that the opioid epidemic is transforming because it is often difficult for opioid users to sustain their addiction.

The pills are expensive and hard to come by if doctors will not prescribe them readily. As a result, opioid users frequently transition to using narcotics such as heroin or fentanyl, as both substances are more common and inexpensive.

Clinton said that this may lead the crisis to spread.

"So to say, this 'movie' is coming to a theater near you, whoever you are, whatever your color is, whatever your politics are," Clinton said.

While Clinton noted that more people recognize the severity of the opioid epidemic, he said that there is still a lot to be accomplished. According to Clinton, the Trump administration's response thus far has been woefully inadequate.

In his remarks, Clinton identified what he views as the three crucial steps America must take in order to stop the rise of opioid abuse.

The first problem that Clinton noted was the need to eliminate the negative stigma surrounding opioid addiction.

In a later panel discussion, Leana Wen, the health commissioner for the city of Baltimore, elaborated on this negative stigma.

"[We need to] change our language and change the way we speak about the issue — speak about the disease of addiction, as opposed to speaking about addicts," she said.

Clinton said that the Clinton Health Matters Initiative will launch a communication strategy, which aims to help affected individuals move past the negative stigma of drug addiction.

"The proper public health term is to 'empower them,'" Clinton said. "But once you know a couple of people who have lost their

kids, I think we should dispense with the niceties. This is nothing to be ashamed of. It's a problem. It's a health problem."

Clinton stressed that employers should have a similar mentality and assure users that they won't lose their jobs as long as they are taking steps to save themselves.

Clinton also addressed the relationship between drug addiction and law enforcement and the lack of cohesion between the realms of public health and criminal justice.

Wen said that one step towards fixing this issue was the creation of the program Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) in the city of Baltimore, which aims to send minor drug offenders to rehabilitation clinics instead of arresting them.

"Individuals who are caught with small amounts of drugs are going to be offered treatment rather than incarceration," she said. "It's a pilot program, and it has already been very successful, but it is time intensive, very resource intensive and currently funded by grants."

Similarly, in other cities like Los Angeles, low level offenders are offered alternatives to prison time.

Ben Barron, the assistant U.S. attorney and deputy chief in the narcotics section of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles, explained that many jurisdictions have programs that deal specifically with drug use and offer intensive probation to assist individuals struggling with addiction.

"From a legal standpoint, the individuals being targeted are not the users themselves, but the doctors and pharmacists who are distributing prescription painkillers for non legitimate medical reasons," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Clinton also added that the country must engage in a community health initiative to broaden access to Narcan, an opioid antidote, and training on its administration.

He also advocated for increased access to methadone, a drug used to reduce effects of withdrawal and cravings for opioids, including heroin.

At the panel, Congressman Elijah Cummings stressed that better accessibility to treatment options is vital to responding to the opioid epidemic.

"[Drug users] have got to be able to get this treatment, and get it quickly," he said. "We've also got to make sure that the treatment that is given is effective and efficient."



COURTESY OF SHARON FARMER

Clinton and public health professionals discussed the national opioid crisis.

NEWS & FEATURES

University announces new career platform

CAREER, FROM A1

university-wide platform for managing career services is another initiative."

Senior Meera Kesavan liked that the website's layout was straightforward.

"The website is designed so that anyone, no matter what year they are, can use it effectively," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I like that there is an entire section to evaluate myself and figure out my strengths and skills."

The university-wide online platform is part of the Student Services Excellence Initiative (SSEI), a project led by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President.

The project, which began last year, aims to improve student services in recruitment and admissions, advising, registration, financial aid, billing, career services, and alumni tracking.

SSEI conducted an assessment of student services as part of its assessment phase last year. Students, faculty, staff and alumni also formed "working groups" to provide recommendations.

The University hired consulting firms to help compile a

list of 50 key recommendations, one of which suggested a university-wide career services platform.

According to Vice Provost for Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger, career services drew more feedback than other student services.

"We had students who weren't part of Krieger and Whiting wanting to be on Handshake," Shollenberger said. "[Students] didn't understand why we have these different systems and different contracts."

Shollenberger said that while SSEI will make the career centers of the nine different schools more collaborative, they are not necessarily unifying the different career centers.

"It's unlikely there will be one central career services, but [there will be] a structure that makes sure there is coordination across the schools," he said.

James Aumiller, senior associate dean for strategic initiatives, said that career services is a top priority since student satisfaction in that area was the lowest. He added, however, that not all the career centers, such as that of Carey Business School, received low ratings.

In its assessment of the University's career services, Deloitte identified "quick wins" for the SSEI to tackle in its first implementation phase, including the website released in September.

Aumiller emphasized that changes to career services will not revolve solely around online projects, saying that part of why the platform is one of SSEI's first projects is because it was universally accepted.

Supplying other resources, he said, will take longer to implement.

"We're getting all the issues on the table for the deans and the provost to discuss," Aumiller said.

Career coaching was another one of the resources Aumiller identified as needing further development.

"[Some] schools have no coaching or they have somebody who does five jobs and does a third of time doing their coaching when they are not really a professional career coach," he said.

In addition to addressing student needs, the SSEI hopes to make hiring Hopkins affiliates simpler for employers. Aumiller said that the online platform will help expose employers to students from a wide range of disciplines.

"It's more economical for them," he said. "Right now they have to go to multiple [schools], and sometimes they get frustrated."

Aumiller said that vendors like Symplicity allow for institutions to highly customize their platforms, presenting inconveniences for employers who then have to make adjustments.

On the other hand, vendors like Handshake provide networking at the expense of customizing re-

sources, easing the hiring process for employers.

Over the summer, senior Taylor Veracka participated in a SSEI-led focus group which assessed potential vendors for the university-wide

online platform. Veracka, who works in Homewood's Career Center, said that alumni continue to look to Hopkins for career resources after graduating.

"Right now the Hopkins Career Center only has access to alumni who have been graduated for five years or fewer," she said. "That leaves a lot of alumni without a job search portal."

Currently, administrators are unsure whether existing vendors will be phased out under the new platform. While Veracka believes that Handshake will remain active at Homewood, both Aumiller and Shollenberger suggested that the university-wide platform may replace separate online platforms.

These plans are not yet fully developed and remain a point of discussion for SSEI. But Shollenberger and Aumiller assured that the transition process will be smooth.

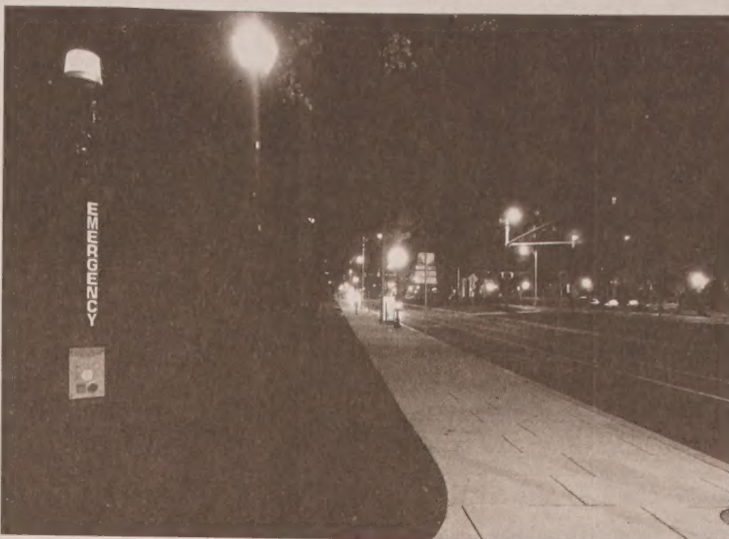
"We would hope within the next month we would be able to announce who our single vendor is," Aumiller said.

While Veracka believes that some confusion may ensue once the new platform is live, she thinks that ultimately it will be a useful resource for all students.

"As much emphasis the University puts on career services, they haven't always been properly funded," she said. "The more you can go on and explore different resources, the better."

Trisha Parayil contributed reporting.

Hopkins ramps up security amid spike in crime



FILE PHOTO

The University is increasing security in neighborhoods around campus, such as Charles Village.

SECURITY, FROM A1

to take law enforcement action. Campus Safety and Security (CSS) also collaborates closely with BPD.

"Our investigative team works in tandem with BPD detectives to share criminal intelligence information and to work on strategies to solve crimes affecting our community," Reeves wrote.

Hopkins crime logs reported 18 robberies and seven assaults since the beginning of this semester. As a result of the spike in crime, many students who live off-campus have felt unsafe and support the University's efforts to improve security.

Graduate student Kushan Ratnayake said that the increased crime rate will influence his housing situation in the future.

"It has definitely impacted my decision to choose a closer location to campus," he said. "Even though housing is cheaper further away from campus, I think people are paying for safety by being closer to campus."

Senior Brice Messenger said that he is satisfied with the efforts of CSS in the area near his building and that he rarely feels unsafe.

"I do feel a little less safe going towards Guilford Avenue away from campus," he said. "But in terms of where I live, I live on North Charles a block away from Homewood, so I still feel like that's a very safe area."

Junior Harrison Folk, who lives on the corner of 31st and N. Calvert Street, feels that security has been inadequate in the past.

"The main presence of campus security was previously on Charles Street and the corner of St Paul and 33rd, where it is not needed," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

"A good portion of students either live off campus and must walk home at night or visit those who do live off campus, so it would make sense to protect these areas."

Folk believes it is a good idea to have armed officers patrolling neighborhoods surrounding campus.

"I do believe that initially having armed officers around campus is a good thing," he wrote. "The University needs to make it known to these criminals that it is not messing around and is finally ready to protect its students."

He elaborated that people are deterred from engaging in criminal activity in areas where there is increased security presence.

"The main way to prevent crime from occurring

is to have a visible presence in these areas, particularly on Calvert and Guilford," he wrote. "Criminals do not care if there are vehicle patrols, as most areas along these streets are protected by trees or darkness."

Reeves said that CSS provides a number of services to educate students on how to stay safe, including security trainings, Neighborhood Safety Walks and the LiveSafe app, which allows students to report criminal activity via text message.

CSS also recently launched the Digital Safety Campaign, a social media crime prevention effort. Reeves discussed the goals of this campaign.

"We began broadcasting mini crime-prevention videos, posts and graphics at the beginning of the fall semester to inform our community about safety," she wrote.

Ratnayake believes that by investing in nearby neighborhoods, Hopkins is not doing enough to address the systemic concerns of crime.

He elaborated that the "mixed-income" neighborhoods which Daniels mentioned in his email, such as those near 9 East 33rd and R. House, are not the areas most in need of investment.

"I feel that the crime is coming more from less developed areas that Hopkins hasn't really been investing in, and it's starting to encroach on the Homewood area," Ratnayake said.

He believes that as the largest employer in the state of Maryland, it is the University's duty to ensure the safety of its affiliates.

"Hopkins has a responsibility to protect the

student body and [address] the systemic concerns that the crime originates from. It has to go beyond beefing up security and camera surveillance."

He also said that the University should expand its Live Near Your Work program,

which provides housing benefits to Hopkins faculty.

"Right now it's only being offered to Hopkins employees and not subcontracted workers," he said. "I'd like them to extend those benefits and in general to... invest in areas outside of the Hopkins bubble as well."

Folk, however, supports the University's initiative to invest in surrounding areas and believes that it will benefit community members.

"If anything, the Baltimore residents who are not affiliated with Hopkins should welcome the additional security of the area. The security does not cost them a penny more," he wrote.

Although President of the Charles Village Civic Association (CVCA) Kirsch Jones agrees that much of the crime originates from areas beyond Charles Village, he supports many of the University's initiatives to improve the neighborhood.

"This highly inclusive approach continues to make life better for many in the area, as it simultaneously addresses key causes of crime and neighborhood instability," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Given their proven impact, community outreach and investment should continue."

Jones listed specific benefits such as fewer vacant buildings, better housing, new businesses and job opportunities.

However, Jones also noted that these initiatives would have to extend beyond Charles Village to have an impact.

"Many of the people who are committing crimes don't live in Charles Vil-

lage," he wrote. "Broad outreach is going to be a key element in improving situations so that people don't choose to engage in crime. The outreach that's already been done as part of JHU's activities has helped, but we're looking at how this can continue."

Jones mentioned a number of practices that Charles Village residents have implemented to improve community safety.

"Community groups are working to raise awareness and to encourage preventive measures," he said. "Residents gather for evening safety walks each week. Some neighbors are doing more to look out for each other, brushing up on best street safety practices and investing in improved locks, lighting, cameras and alarms."

Reeves said that residents in surrounding areas are aware of the increased efforts of CSS.

"The Charles Village community recognizes and supports our mobile patrols, which supplement crime prevention in their neighborhoods, and our Neighborhood Safety Walk Program in the fall," she wrote. "It is not unusual for residents to come out and thank our patrol officers or greet students who participate in the Neighborhood Walks."

She elaborated that the University is collaborating with the Charles Village community in a variety of ways as it implements these new security measures.

"Campus Safety and Security and Johns Hopkins' Office of Community Affairs work closely with local neighborhood groups... attending community meetings, participating in community events to show our continued support, and maintaining productive partnerships," she wrote.

According to Jones, the CVCA and the Charles Village Community Benefits District, another community organization, are both working with campus security to provide support and disseminate crime information. He said that it is important to raise awareness about the issue and collect feedback from residents.

"I want people to understand yes, we're having a problem," he said. "But it's being approached and it is something that we can get past."

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VOICES

Hopkins is a diverse university, where an incredible mix of cultures, academic interests and personalities coexist and thrive...

Spooky episodes from TV's Gotham



Catherine Palmer
Catwoman

Sadly, another Halloween has come and gone with most of us probably stress-eating candy in the library. If you're like me and are gutted over not having time to dress up or carve a pumpkin, fear not. You can stay in the holiday spirit for a little while longer by checking out the scariest episode from each season of the darkest superhero drama on television: Gotham.

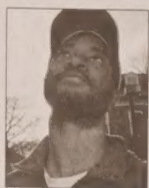
1. "Pilot" (1x01): With a double homicide, a throat slashing, a life-altering physical assault and a faked murder, Gotham doesn't pull any punches in its first outing, setting up the bleak tone and pervasive violence that have come to define the show. A 12-year-old Bruce Wayne (David Mazouz) is set on the path to becoming Batman after watching helplessly as his parents are shot and killed. Meanwhile, Penguin (Robin Lord Taylor) tries to improve his status in the criminal underworld and pays for it dearly.

2. "Mommy's Little Monster" (2x07): Edward Nygma (Cory Michael Smith), a forensic scientist for the Gotham City Police Department, accidentally commits a brutal murder, unwittingly catalyzing his later transformation into The Riddler. Meanwhile, teenage Selina Kyle, who will grow to become Catwoman (Camren Bicondova), fears for her friend Bridgit's (Michelle Veintimilla) safety after Bridgit gets in over her head with a criminal ring.

3. "The Gentle Art of Making Enemies" (3x14): The deranged Jerome Valeska (Cameron Monaghan), a quasi-Joker figure, has returned to Gotham and encouraged citizens to engage in a lawless purge. Amidst the chaos, he sets out to kill Bruce but is more interested in subjecting him to sadistic torture at an elaborate carnival first. Jerome's actions cause Bruce to make a fateful decision. Meanwhile, Nygma confronts Penguin about his involvement in a fatal car crash.

4. "The Blade's Path" (4x05): Blaming himself for the death of a young boy at the hands of his mentor Ra's al Ghul (Alexander Siddig), Bruce goes on a reckless mission to prevent Ra's from hurting anyone else. His butler and guardian Alfred Pennyworth (Sean Pertwee) and Detective Gordon (Ben McKenzie) set out to stop Bruce before he makes a decision he can't take back. Meanwhile, a seemingly zombified former mobster returns to Gotham after being shot dead, but he can't remember who killed him.

Grieving in peace: coping with the loss of a loved one



Jordan Britton
Guest Columnist

Recently, I went to the Counseling Center to wait on a friend. I had been to the Center before but not for some time. While sitting in the waiting room, I noticed an assortment of pamphlets for a variety of support groups on campus. One that stuck out to me read "Living with Loss Support Group."

As you could guess from the title, this support group focuses on providing "a safe space for students to share their feelings regarding their loss." The pamphlet goes on to state, "Group topics will also include the grief process, fears related to loss, and coping strategies." The necessity of such a support group is understandable, considering the ubiquity and inevitability of death.

According to the CDC, a total of 2,448,288 deaths occurred in the United States in 2003. Of those 2,448,288 deaths, 2,898 were children between the ages of five and nine. Of those 2,898 children between the ages of five and nine, 282 were young black females. Among those 282 little angels was Diamond.

On January 28, 2003, Diamond laid down for a mid-day nap in the home of her daycare provider, Ms. Judy. Prior to her nap, Diamond had garnered the resent-

ment of her older brother for tattling on him and another girl. Those two had been fighting over a toy.

Her brother sat on the steps leading to the basement, fuming over his placement in time-out. Though he loved his sister, in that moment he felt nothing but contempt for her. His anger dissipated as he heard Ms. Judy frantically calling out to Diamond. Ms. Judy's volume increased with each utterance of her name. Diamond did not respond; Diamond did not wake up.

Diamond's brother abandoned his spot to see what was happening. He quickly found himself paralyzed as he watched Ms. Judy pick up the unresponsive girl and rush her out the front door.

Two things struck him as his sister passed by him motionless. The first was her irregular breathing. It was short, yet harsh and loud. The second was the fear etched across Ms. Judy's face.

Being a child, he seldom witnessed an adult visibly displaying fear. It unnerved him, to say the least. Nothing was supposed to scare an adult.

Ms. Judy took Diamond across the street to a neighbor's home. There, she waited on the ambulance while her adult daughter looked after the rest of the children.

That night, the brother and his youngest sister, who was three, did not go home. For reasons unknown to them, they spent the night at Ms. Judy's.

It was dark outside by the time Ms. Judy returned from the hospital.

The two remaining children sat eating mac and cheese and watching TV when she came in with tears streaming down her face. She walked over to the brother, bent down, looked him in the eyes and told him that Diamond would be okay. He wanted to believe her.

The brother and sister shared rooms with Ms. Judy's son and daughter, respectively, that evening. Unfortunately, the events of that day made falling asleep nearly impossible.

The brother managed to get in a few hours of sleep but spent most of the night waiting for the sun to rise. At the break of dawn, he crept down the stairs to the living room. He paused in his tracks when he saw one of Ms. Judy's friends sitting on the living room couch, a few feet from where Diamond had been lying the day before, and talking on the phone.

Instead of rushing back upstairs, the brother observed the woman through the banister. While eavesdropping, he heard her utter the words "the little girl didn't make it." The brother convinced himself that she was talking about some other girl.

A few hours later, the two siblings' grandmother, their great aunt and a family friend came to pick them up in the children's mother's red Durango. The brother knew his grandmother had her own car, so it confused

him to see her driving his mother's.

Once in the vehicle, he forgot all about the peculiarity of the situation. He looked in the back-most row, carefully surveyed the vehicle and then asked, "Where's Diamond?" Silence met his question.

Their grandmother drove them to her home in the city, 40 minutes away. The parents of the young children greeted them at the front and then took them upstairs to one of the

bedrooms. Their mother sat them down on a futon and delivered the news. She told them that Diamond was

in a better place and, curiously, that she wouldn't feel pain anymore.

Thirteen years later, the brother, now 21, found himself sitting on the black leather centerpiece of his therapist's office. He had been going to therapy regularly for four years up until that point.

During this session, he mentioned Diamond in passing, while discussing another issue. His therapist, Dr. S, stopped him and pointed out that he doesn't talk much about her. Quite frankly, she rarely came up during their sessions.

The brother expressed that he moved on from that incident. He knew it affected him as a child, but he thought any effects it had on him at the current moment were negligible.

He admitted that it was not uncommon for him to think about his sister's death and to even have an emotional reaction to those memories. Dr. S continued to push him on the topic.

As the brother talked, he found himself describing a multitude of ways that his sister's death still affected him. It was almost as if he spent the last 13 years stuck in the moment he watched Ms. Judy rush out the door with his sister in her arms.

While many of the memories of that day may have faded, he never forgot the sound of her breathing. It was short and harsh. It was the sound someone makes when they're clinging to life.

On January 28, 2003, my little sister Diamond died from a ruptured intracranial aneurysm. I was there and watched it happen. After that day, I joined the demographic of people living with loss.

My grief process was 13 years of denial and repression. My fears were the thoughts of death, mine and others, plaguing me daily. My coping mechanism was to take on the responsibility of living the life she'd never get to.

If you are living with loss, and you seek support or to support others, call the Counseling Center. Living with loss is tough, but you're not alone.

Students may contact the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278 for support. If calling outside of normal business hours, you can reach the counselor on call through Security at 410-516-7777.

People should stop calling Writing Seminars a "fake" major



Rudy Malcom
Guest Columnist

What's your major? Over the course of your four years as an undergraduate, you will likely be asked this question more times than you swipe your J-Card. After all, it's the perfect small talk topic for members of your extended family or any of the miscellaneous adults you encounter.

During Orientation Week it serves as the go-to weapon for shattering the awkward silence that pervades many first conversations with fellow First-Year Mentor (FYM) group members and new floormates.

Your major might be one of the first things someone learns about you after your name and is, perhaps, almost as defining.

If you, like many of my friends, are a biomedical engineering major at Hopkins, this identifying feature is surely something to pride yourself on: The U.S. News

& World Report ranks our undergraduate program as second-best in the nation.

But what if you're a humanities major? Indeed, Hopkins is known for its top-notch STEM programs, which means there exists a (wholly false) stereotype that the University underemphasizes the humanities.

Several high school peers even questioned my decision to come here to major in Writing Seminars. My chemistry lab partner told me how great it was that, despite being "so smart," I had chosen to pursue creative writing. Go me for following my passion!

At a party in mid-August, an acquaintance asked me what I planned to major in.

"Writing Seminars," I said.

"No, like, what's your major?" he said.

Thinking that the Calvin Harris music blasting had made him mishear my response, I repeated it.

"No, no, I'm asking you what your major is," he said.

I finally told him that no matter how many times he asked, Writing Seminars would still be my major.

"Like, writing?" he asked. "You're going to Hopkins for that?"

Well, here I am. So, you may ask, how have Hopkins students responded when I tell them that I'm Writing Sems?

"Omg, you're so brave!"
"Wow, that's so cool!"
"Ooh, I only know one other Writing Sems — do you know her?"

But I do not feel like some sort of mystical creature, and no, in the two months I've been here, I have not identified every single person in my major. There are literally 11 other people in my "Introduction to Fiction and Poetry I" class.

Whenever I speak articulately, make a half-decent pun or say something grammatically correct (which honestly doesn't make much sense), many of my friends are quick to cheer, "Writing Sems!"

I respond "Writing Sems?" right back when they do.

But I don't know if I'm completely okay with them

expressing joking surprise when I demonstrate even a shred of understanding of mathematical and scientific concepts. I know I'm not fine with people saying, "Don't worry, you can still go to law

school" — as if I need to add some sort of veneer of reality to my vocational ambitions just because I don't have a mountain of STEM job prospects.

Once, a friend gave me a fake dollar bill because it would be more money, she said, than I would ever make with my degree. My friend should not laugh at me for saying I'm writing a poem, when he knows that I spend just as many hours on classwork as he does, sitting across from him nightly in the Hut.

Writing Seminars is not, as described by my floormate, a "fake" major. Do you know how hard it is to create a short story every week?

I still suffer mini-existential crises about my creative abilities and com-

petency as a writer daily. My humanities courses are demanding and challenge me more than I have ever been challenged before, and I love it. Through reading and writing, I am gaining insights into my own and others' realities and perceptions, learning about what it means to be a human in this time and place and mastering how to use language to affect how others think and feel.

Of course, I know (and hope) that you're just teasing Writing Sems playfully. I can't say that I don't often enjoy it. But recognize that everyone at Hopkins should be proud of their major and that the humanities are, by no means, a less respectable path of study, my dear, semi-illiterate engineering friends.



GAGE SKIDMORE/CC BY-SA 2.0

Freshman Rudy Malcom is constantly teased by his friends about being a Writing Sems major.

Here is the section where you can publish your unique thoughts, ideas and perspectives on life at Hopkins and beyond.

Becoming a U.S. citizen: a letter to my parents



Diva Parekh
Copy Queen

Dear Parents,

I just applied to re-new my green card. The next step: I'll apply for citizenship. Fingers crossed, I become a citizen. You're not moving here with me, and I wouldn't want you to. You've already given up enough of your lives for me. I don't plan on coming back. All my life, I never did.

So there's a truth we have to face here, and it's that we're probably never going to be in the same place for more than a month at a time.

All we have left is those two weeks of winter break when I have to juggle you with my friends and figure out who I want to spend each precious day with; those short summer breaks when I come back home between jobs and internships.

We've been fighting a lot lately, haven't we? You've noticed that too, haven't you? Is that why you sound so

afraid on the phone—you're just permanently afraid of starting another fight?

I'm not going to get into those arguments here; I didn't write this article to criticize you. I wrote this article because I'm afraid too. I'm afraid because every time I talk to you, it feels more and more superficial. If we're not fighting, we're making small talk.

When did that happen? When did you turn from the people I'd tell everything to, the people I'd laugh with, the people who were my only friends when no one would talk to me in middle school, to the people I talk to about the weather?

Remember when we'd watch cooking shows together and squabble over that last piece of dessert? Dad, you'd always give up and let me have it. Mom, we always fought till the bitter end, till sometimes that piece was on the floor with chocolate sauce all over my pant leg.

We still do that when I come home, but — I don't know — it just doesn't feel as real anymore. The memories feel more real. Mom, I miss sitting in the car after coming home from the bus stop and just not going home yet because we were talking in the car for hours.

Dad, I miss how I'd make you read all the books I liked

and watch all the shows I liked and how you'd love them even more than I did. I miss listening to music in the car with you. I miss the ridiculous jokes at the most inappropriate times.

It's not like it's all gone, though. We have our new traditions. Every night I land, you make Indian street food for me. When I come out of the airport, you run toward me because you know I never wear my glasses on flights, and I can't actually see you until you're right in front of my face.

Sometimes you'll text me in the middle of the night asking me how I am and asking when you can call. Then I call, and I hear it in your voice. I hear how much you miss me. I miss you too, so much that writing this is making me cry. I know I chose to move here and I know how much that hurt you.

I didn't want to talk to

you until I wrote this article because I didn't want to fight again. I didn't want to write this angry. It's been a week since we last talked, maybe more. And I know I told you that you don't need to check on me every day, but I was stupid.

Because for a week, you didn't check on me. You didn't call. You didn't text. And that's when I realized how easy it would be to just fall out of touch. Do you know how strange it is that you don't know the names of every single one of my friends? Do you know how empty it feels when I can't tell you something because I'm afraid it'll start some stupid, shallow argument?

You're probably going to wonder what the point of this article is. Well, you tell me. Tell me how to fix this, because I miss you. I miss being part of your life, and I don't want you to stop being a part of mine.



COURTESY OF DIVA PAREKH
Parekh resides in Baltimore but grew up in Mumbai, where her parents live.

Tips to help international students adapt to the U.S.



Tiancheng Lyu
Guest Columnist

We all know it's hard to leave home and attend college. You know what's even harder? Leaving home and attending college in another country.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, in 2016, a record high of one million foreign students came to America for higher education.

So do you want to study in the U.S.?

If so, as someone who attended a boarding school in the States for the last four years and is now a freshman at an American college, I have tips to share with you.

Regardless of your major, where you're from or what degree you're pursuing, these tips can help you make an even smoother transition into your American college life.

Learn the "American" Culture

Honestly there isn't an "American" culture. The cultural scene in the United States is based off a variety of different languages, cuisines and religious beliefs. On one hand, its diversity offers everyone multiple perspectives on the same subject and encourages conversation.

Nevertheless, at the same time, it can create tension among certain groups that hold contradictory opinions.

Therefore the best way for international students like us to "learn" its culture is to listen closely and to engage actively in all the conversations happening both within and outside of your community.

Yes, do go to that sports game. Do eat at the fast food restaurants. But don't miss the opportunity to talk to people and hear their stories. Trust me. American culture is way more than football and fast food.

Don't Be Shy and Make Friends!

When I first came to the United States in 2013, I was really shy. And you can imagine how surprised I was, in the first few weeks of school, to see my American friends saying hi to strangers on the streets, complimenting their clothes ("OMG I love your dress today!") and making "friends" on social media sites like Facebook.

In many other countries, American culture is often compared to a peach. Like a peach it's soft on the outside, meaning it's easy for you to get to know people and make friends quickly. But it might take you a while before you know them well. In other words, getting to the "core" of the culture is much harder.

This by no means should scare you away. On the contrary, I encourage you to leave your comfort zone and embrace the "extroverted" American culture while still respecting both others' space and, even more importantly, your own.

Be Proud of Where You're From

As mentioned above, diversity can also cause trouble. Geographic distance sometimes oversimplifies the characteristics of other

cultures. As a result, some Americans might have stereotypical opinions of your country.

For example, four years ago when I told my friends that I'm Chinese, they immediately assumed that I worshipped Chairman Mao and, at times, even pointed to the dogs on the street and asked jokingly, "Your dinner?"

I deemed it my responsibility to clear these stereotypes. So I wrote an article for my high school's newspaper in which I asked American students to ask 10 questions about China and had Chinese students answer them. It might not have had a huge impact on my community. But it was a small step forward.

Be proud of where you're from and who you are. Share your stories with others so they can know you and your home better. By doing so, you also get the chance to take a step back and see your country via the lens of another culture. As the cliché goes, the best way to understand a place is by leaving it.

Learn A New Language

You might find this surprising.

Yes, you are already in a foreign country speaking a language that's very likely not your native tongue. Nevertheless, I can tell you from my personal experience that I've grown so much as a person and as a friend by learning Spanish.

Learning another language in the States offers you an even clearer understanding of both your native tongue and American English.

Furthermore, given the variety of languages spoken in the U.S., it's needless to say that you will meet so many more interesting people by

speaking another language.

Travel a Lot

Come on. The United States is a big country.

Take a road trip on Route 1 during Winter Break. Visit the Grand Canyon during Spring Break. Plan a hike in Yellowstone National Park for the upcoming summer.

There are so many things to do. So travel around to see and to be seen.

Keep in Touch with Your Parents and Friends at Home

We all know college is a great place to make new friends and form new relationships. You might call your parents and friends often during the first few weeks of school.

However, as time goes by, you might call them less and less often until you realize that you've lost contact with some of your closest friends back at home.

Don't do that. Find a balance between your new adventures and your connections back home. Talk to your family and old friends on a regular basis. It can be once a week or once a month — it doesn't matter.

Just don't lose touch with them, for you definitely want to have someone to talk to about your exciting journeys abroad once you're at home during vacations.

Relax and Enjoy

Finally, college is about having fun, meeting new people and figuring out what you really want to do.

Stuff like GPA matters. But in the end it is not everything. Try to relax and enjoy your life. Embrace everything that comes your way with curiosity and passion.

Whenever you feel lonely or frustrated, talk to the people around you. They are here to support you.

October Horoscopes

Aries

Remember that midterm you thought you failed? So did everyone else. The curve is in your favor this month.

Taurus

Take the time to do the things you've always told yourself you would during undergrad. Go to a party, get serenaded or paint the blue jay statue.

Gemini

Beware the coming Hell Week.

Cancer

Shake things up, study on A-level instead of C this week.

Leo

Take a bath or go for a run. You deserve some self-care time.

Virgo

Forgive yourself for not getting as much done as you were supposed to. You had fun last weekend, and that's what's important.

Libra

This is the best time for a confession. That person with the pretty eyes and the sweet smile whose name you've doodled into your notebook? You need to ask that person out.

Scorpio

It's only getting better from here.

Sagittarius

Don't offer to do too much this week. You've got enough going on as it is.

Capricorn

You're feeling creative. Don't let that energy go to waste! Start that project that you've been putting off for forever now.

Aquarius

Dress for the job you want this week, and act like you're going to get it, too. Bask in positive energy.

Pisces

Things might not have gone the way you wanted so far, but don't let that get you down, there are only good things from here.

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NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

Editors of *The Baltimore City Paper*, we salute you



In 1977, former editors of *The Johns Hopkins News-Letter* founded a small publication that was dedicated to covering the arts and events in our city with an alternative perspective.

First called the *City Squeeze* and then renamed *The Baltimore City Paper*, this free alt-weekly became an integral part of the Baltimore news community.

On Wednesday, after 40 years since its founding, *The City Paper* published its final issue. The Baltimore Sun Media Group bought the paper in 2014 and earlier this year announced that they will be shutting the paper down.

As editors of a fellow local publication, we are deeply saddened to say goodbye.

The City Paper has consistently provided Baltimore with a critical, humorous and much-needed investigative perspective on our city. The paper was an indispensable resource for Baltimore's art community by showcasing the works of everyone from local DJs to famed Baltimore filmmaker, John Waters.

The *Paper's* political coverage has offered a sharp and inquisitive perspective to the inequalities and injustices that have long run rampant in our city.

Their writers have consistently sought out the voices of those ignored and cast aside by our current media coverage.

In this way, *The City Paper* occupied a unique place in Baltimore for decades.

With local media outlets closing across the country, community journalism is more important than ever.

Beyond its weekly coverage, *The City Paper* has served as a springboard for aspiring journalists in our city. Many *News-Letter* writers and editors started out their careers at *The City Paper*. It was there they learned the essentials of writing compelling articles and more importantly, offering a compelling perspective.

Without the *City Paper*, who will take on this role? Who will give everyday Baltimoreans their voice?

As a fellow independent publication, we cannot imagine the pain of watching something you worked

so hard to build and that meant so much to others slip away.

The loss of *The City Paper* reminds us that we cannot take for granted the articles we enjoy every week. Good journalism isn't free.

We can talk a lot about the corporatization and consolidation of media but we can rant about that on another day. Today, we remember *The City Paper*.

In the last Best Of Issue by *The City Paper*, Editor Brandon Soderberg perhaps captured our sentiments best.

"I truly hope something steps in and fills this void, because without *Baltimore City Paper*, the landscape here for news and reporting is very grim and more PR-ish, and the cops and developers and art scene cornballs and corrupt politicians and other clowns get to run even freer than they already do.

We should try and not let the assholes win, even though I suspect they're going to win anyways, fucking hell."

Let's be real here for a sec. The closing of *The City Paper* fucking sucks.

LETTERS & OP-ED POLICY

The News-Letter encourages letters to the editor and op-eds. *The Johns Hopkins News-Letter* reserves the sole right to edit all op-ed pieces and/or letters to the editor for space, grammar, clarity, accuracy and style. This applies to the body of the submission as well as its headline. Upon submission, all op-eds and letters to the editor become property of *The News-Letter*. *The News-Letter* reserves the right to not publish any op-ed or letter to the editor for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Editors-in-Chief. Letters to the editor are limited to 400 words, must address content previously published in *The News-Letter*, and must include the author's name. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in that week's issue; they should be sent to chiefs@jhnews-letter.com (with "Letter to the editor" in the subject line) or the mailing address below. To write an op-ed, contact opinions@jhnewsletter.com. Op-eds are not limited in their length except as available space may dictate. All submissions may be published online as well as in the paper, and no anonymous submissions will be accepted.

Submittal of an op-ed and/or letter to the editor acknowledges your acceptance of and agreement to these policies. Any questions about these policies should be directed to the Editors-in-Chief of *The News-Letter* at chiefs@jhnewsletter.com.

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The News-Letter

The Gatehouse

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Heightened security must serve both students and residents

The recent rise in crime in Baltimore, including the Charles Village area, has become an issue affecting Hopkins students and affiliates over the past few months.

There have been 10 robberies reported since the beginning of the semester, as opposed to six and seven total in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

This trend coincides with the increase in crime in Baltimore city as a whole. In May, *The Baltimore Sun* reported that across the city robberies were up 17 percent from last year.

We are heartened to hear from both Hopkins administration and the Charles Village Civic Association are working together on securing our community, and appreciate these ef-

forts to increase safety and decrease crime. That said, further work needs to be done, and this work walks a fine line between securing students and building a rift between us and the residents who live in the community. We cannot go down a path where someone who is not a student is treated as a suspect.

Over the past few years, student housing has become less integrated with local communities. Upper-classmen housing is now concentrated in certain areas of Charles Village, pulling students out of the row houses on N. Calvert St. or Guilford Ave. and into high rise apartments. This has severed previous ties students have had with the community.

If security is increased

around campus, we believe Hopkins must ensure community residents are afforded just as much protection as students. Otherwise, it can become something that estranges us from the community we live in.

We encourage the administration to implement measures that ensure the entirety of Charles Village can feel safe, while maintaining and building the relationship students have with the community.

Despite this rise in crime, we cannot let this be an excuse to strengthen our "Hopkins bubble." Continue to explore the community. Talk to your neighbors. Through engagement, we can help make our environment a more trusting and safe place.

OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

It's not enough to say you're a feminist

By GILLIAN LELCHUK

Growing up, I never felt like I was treated any differently for being born a woman. My mother and my teachers and Disney Channel taught me that I could be anything I wanted to be. I believed that so much I never even considered it might not be true. I still believe I can do anything, but I've started to realize that not everyone has that same confidence in my ability. Because when I take over my position from a man and work twice as hard as him, I still have to be three times as aware of how my tone comes across. And even when I pay attention, even when I temper my authority with politeness, I'm still "abrasive."

Last week, a man told me, and I quote, "You're dry and sarcastic, and it comes off as abrasive."

Let me set the scene for you, not that it should matter. This is someone I work with in a semi-professional capacity. Let's call him Rob (not his real name). Rob is in his thirties and not a college student, but in regards to our work, we are equals. In certain situations, I am his boss. Rob calls himself a feminist, and he calls himself a feminist quite often.

One day last week, Rob snapped and talked over two of my (female) peers and myself. We were trying to ask for clarification, because Rob was saying and doing two different things. I pulled Rob aside afterwards and told him that he couldn't speak to us like that, especially not in front of the

entire group, and that he needed to listen to us.

Rob flipped it back around on me and said I'd been condescending towards him. I needed to trust him to do his job, and I needed to stop telling him what to do. He concluded the conversation by admitting that we both needed to work on our bedside manners. He said that he was sassy and sometimes it can be taken the wrong way, and I come off as abrasive.

I don't have to defend my opinion that he wouldn't have said all of that if I were a man, but I will. It's the "bossy v. boss" phenomenon. I went to Rob with a concern about his behavior in a professional environment, and he not only fought me on my behavior in the same professional environment, but he also attacked my character when I was only trying to do my job. Thanks, Rob.

If I were a man, would he have told me I was abrasive? Maybe, but I don't think so.

The worst part of it is that Rob doesn't even realize he's done anything wrong. The next day he approached me and said, "About yesterday, I'm good. I think I'm good." As if I had something to apologize for and he was letting me know he forgave me.

There's more to being a feminist than applying the label to yourself. Every human being — but particularly men — needs to examine their potential inherent misogyny. It's not enough to say you believe in gender equality. You need to observe the ways in which you speak and act with people of different genders and

consider why you behave the way you do.

It's okay to blame your inherent sexism on media or on your parents or society. It's likely that if you're calling yourself a feminist, you aren't actively trying to belittle the women in your life. But that doesn't mean you're immune to sexist behavior.

When I told my roommate about what Rob said to me, she said that he was "performatively woke." I've been thinking about that ever since, how people can put on an air of being progressive and socially aware but demonstrate entirely different behavior.

There's a certain amount of slack we give to men who identify as feminists. They say they believe in gender equality, and they say they want women in positions of power, and they say they've never discriminated on the basis of gender and they never will. They say they're feminists, and we laud them as woke and progressive and essential to The Cause. Because without these so-called "woke" men, how can we expect to improve the plight of women?

It's not enough for me to say I'm a feminist, and it's not enough for you to pretend you're a feminist. We all need to admit that we make mistakes, and we all need to work to change our behavior. Sexism doesn't disappear just because we want it to.

Gillian Lelchuk is a Writing Seminars and mathematics major from Los Alamitos, Calif. She is the News-Letter's Magazine Editor.

Changing the conversation is a dangerous debate tactic



GAGE SKIDMORE /CC BY-SA 2.0
Stanton argues that Trump's supporters follow in his footsteps by changing the conversation.

By WILLIAM STANTON

The 2016 Republican candidate, voters, and platform for President of the United States was incredibly serpentine (and successful) in defending their candidate, Donald Trump, against controversy and scandal. I argue that one of the most powerful tools he and his supporters use for both debates and defense against scandal is the tactic of controlling the conversation.

I'm sure a majority of readers are familiar with the audio tapes of the current POTUS that *The Washington Post* released, of him having "an incredibly lewd conversation" regarding his conduct with women. The tapes were released on October 7 — usually a pivotal moment for voters leading up to Election Day on November 8. Normally, a scandal containing such improper conduct would bury a presidential candidate (and even a residing POTUS) in a landslide of mud and dirt and negative coverage, but this simply did not occur.

Trump supporters who, on some subconscious level, did not care that their candidate was a serial sexual assaulter and misogynist. It's worth examining how they did, and still do, argue for the now-President.

His supporters employ the same tactic that their candidate employed in his apology video to the masses: changing the topic of the conversation. In the same-day follow-up apology video, Trump cites the age of the audio tapes and asserts that he has changed his rhetoric. However, given his recent comments such as: "blood coming out of her wherever" with regards to Megyn Kelly post-interview; considering abortion "punishable"; and his commentary towards Hillary and her family — "I was going to hit her with her husband's women, and I decided I shouldn't do it because her daughter was in the room" — indicate otherwise.

He adds another layer to changing the topic in the same apology video: "Bill Clinton has actually abused women, and Hillary has bullied, attacked, shamed, and intimidated his victims." There are two more problems with this additional statement. Besides the fact that these claims are far less substantiated by evidence, he has now completely left the topic of controversy surrounding himself and brings up even older, less substantiated claims of a man who is only the husband of the opposing candidate and not the candidate herself. However, it is important to realize that neither he nor his opposing arguments should be thinking about what Bill Clinton did or did not do during his term as POTUS. The purpose of the apology video was to address the allegations pertaining to himself, not another man.

When two people are discussing this incident, the Trump supporter will change the topic of

conversation to lead the other person away from Trump's negative qualities. Trump is accused of admitting to be a serial sexual assaulter in the tapes, and his supporter replies with the statement: "He is no longer that same person." The non-supporter in the conversation says yes, he is the same person, look at examples X, Y and Z from the past year. Trump's fan points to Bill Clinton's negative past.

Now the two individuals participating in the debate are no longer talking about the original subject. In the first step of the argument, what someone else did does not change the fact that Trump still did what he did. In the second stage of the argument, it does not matter what someone else had done, firstly Trump has not changed and secondly he still did conduct himself that way and is currently conducting himself in the same way. At the time the of the scandal, an observant reader could find versions of this exact same conversation in the comment sections of Facebook, Youtube, news websites — wherever there was discussion on the topic with large amounts of people.

Leading the conversation is a frighteningly powerful tool for wasting the time and energy of your opponent. It also makes the party leading the conversation seem like the victor when they lead their opponent to a topic they both happen to agree on. The argument will not go back to Trump and his issues. This is not to say that the right wing is the only party guilty of this tactic, but it certainly is widely popularized and is a strong force in today's political climate, especially in Republican dialogue. This tactic is used when discussing scandal and many other issues usually tackled in debate. It's a tactic that can be used to win a debate through a show of strength, but the core issue(s) brought up in the debate will never be reached or addressed.

The strongest defense against this tactic is simple: Refuse to allow the other party to shift the conversation, and simply end the conversation when they insist on shifting blame.

I do not think that this tactic was consciously employed by some big, right-wing secret cabal, but it's a natural way for a person to defend an issue or person when facing indisputable facts. If the person that you're debating is not acknowledging the facts, simply do not give them a platform, or acknowledge the one that they are standing on. I am not discouraging debate from both sides of the aisle at Hopkins, but instead with this opinion piece I hope to discourage unproductive discussion that steers away from facts and the topic of the debate.

Sam Mollin is a freshman from Mamaroneck, N.Y. He is a political science major.

William Stanton is a senior Writing Seminars major from Beaverton, Oregon.

It's time to fight back against unregulated vapes

By SAM MOLLIN

Vaping has become incredibly ubiquitous over the past few years. It's been showing up at parties, on campus and pretty much anywhere else you'd expect people to be. CDC statistics show that 38 percent of high schoolers and 13 percent of middle schoolers have already tried vaping. Vapes have been allowed to proliferate with virtually no oversight by any public health or government agency.

The problems with these devices are twofold. The first, and most prominent, is that they contain nicotine. The second is that we don't know what the health effects are yet, and it's dangerous to continue letting children use these devices.

Everything about what happens to you when you use a vaping device depends on what you have in the vaping cartridge. The problems start when a consumer uses a cartridge containing nicotine for the first time. Nicotine is highly addictive. People who use it and continue to use it experience severe withdrawals and cravings when they don't have nicotine after a period of time. Addiction of any kind is a problem, especially when unregulated companies are using nicotine to legally get customers hooked on their product, but the most problematic is when underage teenagers use nicotine.

Schools across America are rife with kids buying vaping devices and cartridges online in bulk and selling them to their peers. This creates a system where vaping companies are happily profiting off of their products being sold to

kids who then become reliant on their product, forcing them to buy more. Companies are making billions of dollars, and we still haven't addressed the problem.

If you've ever sold vaping cartridges to anyone underage, you're part of the problem. You may say that at least there's no harmful health effects, but that's where you're wrong.

We already know that inhaling the propylene glycol common in vaping instruments is harmful to the lungs. The intense heat in vaping tools may also melt a tiny bit of metal or plastic, causing the harmful inhalation of hard metals or plastic whenever you vape. Beyond this, we don't know what's in vaping cartridges, because as of now we don't require vaping companies to provide accurate labeling to consumers.

Without regulation, these vaping cartridges could contain just as many carcinogens as cigarettes, or possibly even more. Right now we are allowing and abetting the sale of harmful and addictive drugs to minors, while standing by as these products are relentlessly advertised. The vaping industry is lining their pockets with vaping drug money as we speak.

The most obvious solution, in my view, is to classify nicotine as a controlled drug and to ban its sale outside of prescriptions for existing nicotine addiction. There is no reason for us to allow nicotine in any form to be legally sold to anyone without a doctor's notice. It's an incredibly dangerous substance that should've never been allowed to be sold so easily in the first place. Beyond that, however, are other methods of regulation.

One leading state to look to is

New York. Right now, New York bans the use of e-cigs wherever cigarettes are banned, and it forbids e-cigs from being used within 100 feet of the entrances of public buildings. Not only that, but legislation is currently pending to include electronic cigarette devices in the definition of tobacco products, along with requiring e-cigarette vendors to obtain a tobacco license to sell e-cigs and increasing the tax on smokeless tobacco.

Additional pending ordinances would ban the display of e-cigarettes in retail stores, include all parts and accessories of e-cigarettes in the definition of tobacco products and ban the sale of all cartridge flavors other than menthol, mint and tobacco in non-age-restricted places.

All of these measures would be powerful steps forward against the unrestricted use and sale of vaping products. The part limiting the sale of cartridge flavors is especially important, given that exotic flavors appeal to teenagers most vulnerable to nicotine addiction. Lastly, a ban on the advertisement of vaping would go a long way in limiting its growing appeal.

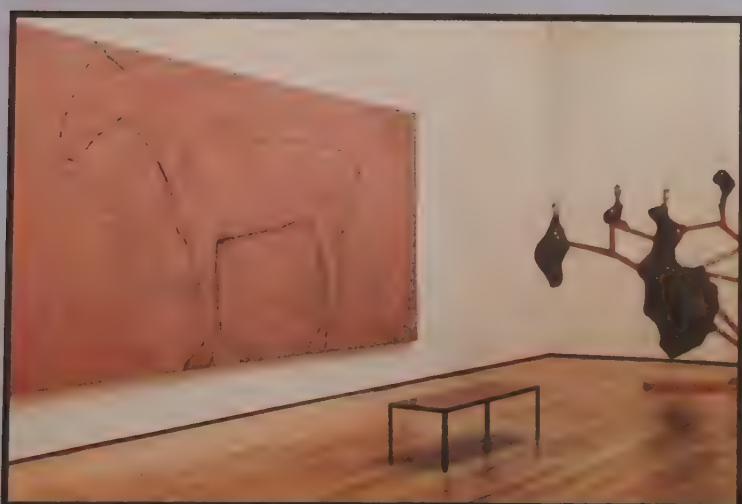
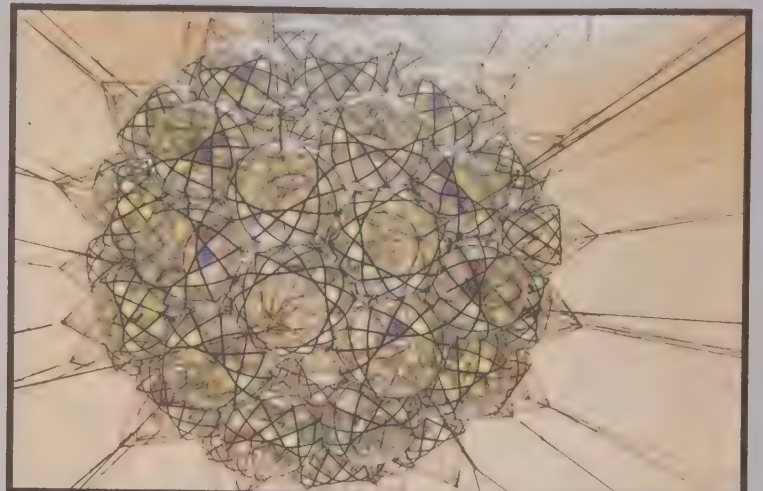
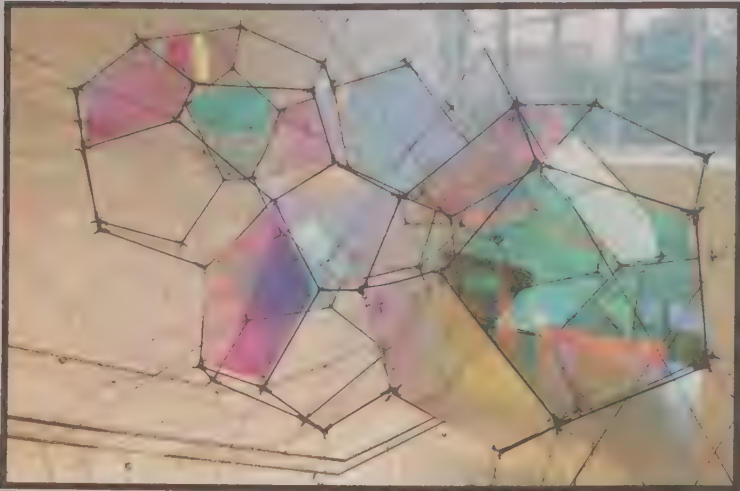
There are a lot of political issues going on right now, but we can't allow the growing public health crisis of vaping to fly under our noses. We can't stand by as companies make consumers dependent on addictive cartridges with unregulated ingredients. If we don't act soon, this problem will become so ingrained into American culture that it will be too late to do anything about it. But if we all work together to raise awareness of this issue and advocate for change, we can continue the process of weaning America off of nicotine forever.

PHOTO ESSAY

Baltimore Museum of Art:

Art that's cool even if you don't know art

by: Lauren Questell



THE B SECTION

N-L

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NOVEMBER 2, 2017



Arts & Entertainment

Patterson Park lights up for Halloween Lantern Parade — B3

Daniel Arzola uses art to advocate for LGBTQ rights — B3

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Science & Technology

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Field Hockey defeats Diplomats to win first place in Conference — B10

Hopkins medical student Jordan Tropf wins Baltimore Marathon — B11

Houston Astros win first World Series in franchise history — B11

YOUR WEEKEND NOVEMBER 2 - 5

Events in Baltimore this weekend

Thursday

Ceasefire! A History of Violence and Intervention in Baltimore

Red Emma's

7:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Watch local surgeon Dr. Simon Fitzgerald talk about the history of violence and anti-violence intervention in Baltimore. Followed by a panel discussing the second Baltimore Cease Fire call for a weekend free from violence. Free.

Friday

Art After Hours

Baltimore Museum of Art

8 p.m. — 11 p.m.

Party among the art at the BMA this Friday or view the new exhibition by Baltimore-based Phaang Howng. Tickets include free food or drink. Tickets start at \$10 for students. 21+

November First Friday!

Silver Queen Cafe

5 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Enjoy new menu items along with special deals, like \$3 dollars off full size pizzas. Or come for a variety of food-related art. Reservations are recommended as seats can fill up fast!

Saturday

Taste of the Marketplace

Mount Vernon Marketplace

11 a.m. — 11 p.m.

Get a chance to try \$5 specials from all the stalls at the Marketplace. Find your favorites, or just enjoy the opportunity to eat a lot of good food!

Yoga For Runners

Locust Point

9 a.m. — 10 a.m.

Bring your yoga mat, towel and water bottle to this free yoga session led by a local runner and physician's assistant. Sponsored by Charm City Run, during this event, you can learn the best ways to stretch and cool down after a run. Free.

Sunday

Fall in Love with Fitness

MV Fitness

11 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.

Bring your friends to this free fitness class or go and meet some new ones. But make sure to reserve your tickets soon, as the spots are going to fill up fast!

Reflecting on the renovated Parkway Theater

By RENEE SCAVONE
Your Weekend Editor

If you are at all into the arts scene in Baltimore, or if you've ever spoken to a film major here, you've probably heard about the Parkway Theatre.

Or maybe you've only seen it through the windows of the JHMI on the way to Peabody or the med campus. Either way, since the Theatre's 2017 grand reopening, it has quickly become a visual monument, not least because it is literally a bright white box.

The sleek-looking building is architecturally out of place in its Station North narrative and seems like it belongs more in the Inner Harbor than Baltimore's historic cultural district.

On the one hand, this visual dissonance is surely purposeful: It's new, it's exciting, and it seems to boast the rather ambitious and perhaps unnecessary goal of reinvigorating the Baltimore film scene.

But then again, there's a distinct otherness about the building in comparison to the brown brick and stone buildings surrounding it. Something about it — be its color, its boxiness, the electric ticker running along the facade — just screams gentrification.

But that very ticker often proclaims that the Parkway is a place where there is "Film for Everyone!"

When a 2 p.m. screening on a Sunday afternoon will set you back \$8 without popcorn or soda, a cinema runs the risk of being labeled a little bit inaccessible.

Don't get me wrong. I think that the Parkway is a fine theater. It's an historic theater and I'm glad that it's been revived.

And yet I cannot deny that there's a certain arro-

gance in its redundancy: If you're looking for someplace to watch an indie film, the mom-and-pop owned Charles Theatre is literally right down the street. What makes the Parkway so special?

The films are good. I won't deny it. The Parkway opened with the Maryland Film Festival, and the Theatre has continued to bring in really wonderful stuff. I've seen foreign shorts, indie comedies and LGBTQ dramas. A lot of films I wouldn't have gotten the chance to see otherwise.

Despite the pricey-ness of some of their features, the Parkway has a number of free film screenings. Next Tuesday you can check out *Swagger*, a documentary about 11 children growing up in the *banlieues* of Paris, as part of their Young French Film Series.

Of course, it's only fair to note that this particular free screening is happening in conjunction with Hopkins. Due in part to its proximity to the JHU-MICA Film Centre, the University's Film and Media Studies department has a relationship with the Theatre.

If you're like me and are a little skeeved out by the way that Hopkins seems to seep into every aspect of Baltimore, this might be a dealbreaker. That being said, if you're going to pick and choose your battles with the many-tentacled beast that is Hopkins, the Film department is probably the least of your worries.

The Theatre itself is almost viciously tidy: Every time I step into their big, open lobby space, I immediately feel the urge to whisper. It's definitely a big change from my hometown cinema-plex — no butter



COURTESY OF RENEE SCAVONE

The old facade of the theater was replaced with a bright, white exterior.

stains on this impossibly clean floor.

Most of the hallways have an inexplicable odor: kind of a mix of tires and also an over-heated hair-dryer. When I first started going to the Parkway, I assumed it was just that new theater smell. Now, I believe it may be a permanent fixture.

The actual theaters themselves, however, are pretty nice. The seats are cushy and the screens adjust based on the aspect ratio of whatever you're watching. That is to say: They're very fancy.

On the flip side, two of the three theaters are impossibly tiny. Back in its original 1910s glory, when it was still showing Paramount features and "blockbusters" weren't even a thing yet, the Parkway could comfortably sit over a thousand people. There was an orchestra pit, for heaven's sake.

It's hard to imagine that now, when I'm sitting in a theater that might fit 50 people tops.

I am personally not a big fan of tiny theaters. I like to be crammed in with as many other human beings as possible. If I'm watching a horror film and I can't feel the sweat and tears of my

neighbor, what's the point? In these two smaller theaters, that kind of physicality is just not happening.

The two main counterpoints to this are the fact that some moviegoers may prefer a more intimate experience and that, especially for some of the more avant-garde showings, there aren't necessarily the audience numbers to fill a full-sized theater.

And it's worth mentioning that there is a larger space: The biggest screening room fits 414 people. Far from an orchestra pit, but certainly nothing to scoff at.

Overall, despite my wariness of its logo, I like the Parkway. It's hard to be critical of something that celebrates an art form I love and really does try to bring a variety of content to its viewers. It's also very hard to be critical of a place that's hosting a double screening of *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* and *Trading Places*.

So, whether you're a true indie film buff who's already bought your tickets to the 6th Annual *Sweaty Eyeballs Animation Invitational* or just want to see *Clueless* on the big screen (one night only next Monday!), I'll probably see you there.

Teavolve: good boba and brunch in Harbor East

By KAREN SUN
Staff Writer

I was born and raised in California, so coming here was a bit of culture shock, especially when it came to food. I don't consider myself a foodie, but I will admit my taste buds have high expectations.

Almost everyone around me knows there is one thing I miss especially, and it's boba, bubble tea, pearl milk tea or whatever you want to call it. I'm from the suburbs of Los Angeles, and there are at least five boba stores in my city and its neighboring cities.

Another favorite pastime my friends from Los Angeles enjoy is finding cute and yummy brunch spots.

During my freshman year, I definitely missed both quality boba and good weekend brunches.

Naturally, I was super happy this summer when my friend from California took me to a place that solved both of these problems: a restaurant called Teavolve Café & Lounge.

Since this summer, I've been to Teavolve at least three times, and I just recently went this weekend

with another brunch-loving friend.

Of course, I ordered my usual drink: the blended matcha green tea with boba. I've had my fair share of boba at Hopkins, from Bamboo Café, to T-swirl Crêpe, to Kung Fu Tea. I'd definitely say the best ones are from Teavolve and Kung Fu Tea.

The sweet, chewy texture of the little pearls mixed in with the refreshing taste of matcha green tea is perfect for anyone who has the slightest craving for boba or is feeling a little rebellious and wants to try something new.

But if boba isn't for you, then no worries! Teavolve also has great brunch and lunch options. Last weekend I ordered the Crab Cake Eggs Benedict, which I found was super popular on Yelp but is only offered on weekends.

I loved it. The mixture of Baltimore's famous crab cakes, with Canadian bacon on top of perfectly poached eggs, was delicious. It was very filling and came with a side of fruits and a side of potatoes, which I was too full to finish.

This meal was on the pricier end of the menu (\$16.75 to be exact), but



LARRY JACOBSEN/CC BY-2.0

Bubble tea, or boba, has become a popular drink throughout the U.S.

Teavolve definitely has many other options. Its dishes range from breakfast paninis to signature salads to favorite egg dishes.

As you can guess from its name, Teavolve also has a wide range of drink options and has two menus (back and front) for drinks alone. Not only do they have many options for loose leaf teas, but they also have fairly extensive brunch cocktail and beer selections.

Moving on from the food, another thing I look forward to at brunch restaurants is the atmosphere. Located in Harbor East, the restaurant is basically right

next to Baltimore's beautiful harbor.

Getting to the area is fairly simple. You can either take the Purple Route of the Charm City Circulator, which thankfully is free, or you can take an Uber, which costs approximately \$9. Bonus: It's only 11 minutes from campus.

If you're up on a weekend morning and are looking to treat yourself to an incredible brunch experience, definitely consider trying Teavolve Café & Lounge.

No matter when you go, it provides a great meal and, if you're like me, more than a little pseudo-foodie-based nostalgia.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviewing the latest in hip-hop and R&B

By NIKITA SHTARKMAN
For *The News-Letter*

These past few weeks have been relatively big ones for hip-hop and R&B. Some major names and underground fixtures have blessed the market with new albums and singles.

Now, we at *The News-Letter* know it can be difficult to sift through all this content; luckily we're here to do part of it for you with these three reviews. All three albums were released Oct. 27, 2017.

Beach House 3 is another Ty Dolla \$ign album. If you've heard a Dolla \$ign album, you should already be able to describe most of the songs off this latest release. The project, while as greatly produced and talent-filled as any other Ty Dolla project, isn't particularly innovative.

The album starts off very promising; the best song on the project is the third track, "Love U Better." DJ Mustard — who had fallen into the trap of creating dozens of beats that all sound the same — crafts one of the biggest, most dynamic beats I've heard in awhile.

For example, he chops the Peabo Bryson sample (notoriously used on "100" by The Game) but then flips it in a completely new direction. The beat sounds like summer and all of the features contribute perfectly; even Autotune Lil Wayne drops a great verse.

Other than "Love U Better," there is a general boringness to this project. I feel like Ty has made every song on it already, and while I absolutely loved each track the first time I heard it, the same bounce is getting old.

The first song, "Famous," is backed by an acoustic guitar. While objectively good, the track is not much different than "Solid" off *Free TC*.

Again, I am in no way saying that this project is bad, it is expertly produced and Ty and all his features sound great. But it's held back by boring songwriting. I have given props to Ty for being so consistent, but while he seemingly can't make a bad song, he also seems to have lost the desire to create a great song.

He is an artist that hasn't grown or changed in years. Every new project sounds like a continuation of the last. Part of me respects the consistency, but another part wants some excitement and novelty.

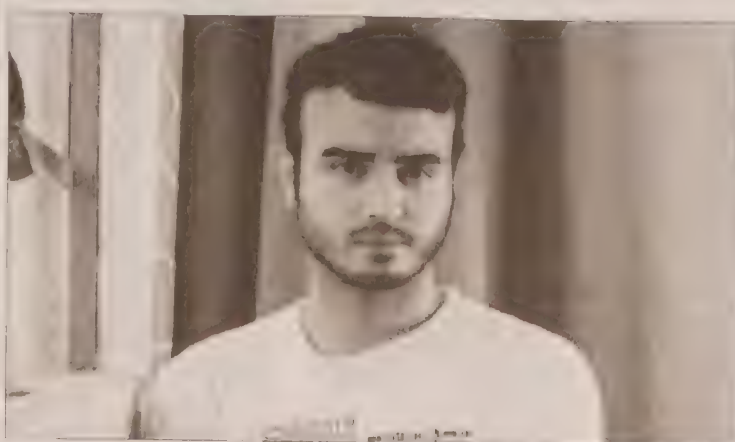
I hope that on future projects, Ty chooses some more novel, vibrant beats. I could see that open up his songwriting to new places.

Majid Jordan came out very hot. The Toronto duo burst onto the scene featured on one of Drake's biggest tracks: "Hold on, We're Going Home," a song that became global almost as soon as it came out. It is atmospheric, slow and tender.

After their initial burst of hype, the duo released

SEE NEW MUSIC, B4

Venezuelan Daniel Arzola talks "activism" at Glass Pavilion



ANAUCCO/CC BY-SA 3.0

Daniel Arzola's project *I'm Not Your Joke* speaks out against homophobia and violence.

By CHARLOTTE KIM
For *The News-Letter*

"Let me tell you a story." Onstage, Venezuelan Artist Daniel Arzola looked out at the crowd gathered in the Glass Pavilion.

On the projector behind him, pictures from his *I'm Not Your Joke* (No Soy Tu Chiste) project shone out — beautiful, human depictions of people in bright pastel colors labeled with quotes meant to combat homophobia.

One picture, titled *I have the right of being as I feel I am*, depicts a man's profile with a beard strikingly made of butterflies.

In fact, in many of his works, the butterfly seems to be a symbol. It intrinsi-

cally ties Arzola's identity to his project.

"We are changing all the time. It's the most natural thing we can do. [The butterfly] represents fragility and transformation. If you interrupt the process of change you interrupt a beautiful process," Arzola said.

This mantra was in the back of Arzola's mind when he created his *I'm Not Your Joke* project in 2013 while in his home country of Venezuela.

He was motivated to act when he heard the story of Angelo Prado, an 18-year-old boy from his home city, Maracay, who was burned alive for being gay.

Prado's fate was one that Arzola himself scarcely

many are not so lucky.

Even if they manage to escape, the scars never fade. Few media stations in Venezuela cover hate crimes against the LGBTQ community, and when they do, Arzola says they treat it, "as jokes," never with any emotion or love.

The goal of Arzola's "activism" — a portmanteau of art and activism — is to use art as a nonviolent way of changing people's mentalities and confronting social issues in a way that appeals to people's emotions, allowing them to connect to the cause.

"The difference between activism and artivism is that activism needs the person to be there to appeal to your reason.

avoided when he was 15. A group of boys tied him to a pole, tore up all his drawings and planned on dousing him in gasoline to burn him alive. By chance, he escaped his bonds, but

Artivism appeals to your emotions. You don't need to understand something to feel it," Arzola said.

Instead of looking for revenge against his assailants, Arzola took up a paintbrush.

"You have to understand that in a moment in your life you're going to stand in front of violence. And violence has a cycle," Arzola said.

Arzola felt that he had to escape from the self-perpetuating cycle of violence.

"If you don't break that cycle, that cycle breaks you," Arzola said.

"In that moment it's going to be best to fill your hands with colors and not with blood. Because if you fight violence with violence you're not fighting, you're letting yourself be beaten."

Shortly after Arzola's *I'm Not Your Joke* project launched, Madonna tweeted about his work after seeing it on a website called *ArtForFreedom.com*, writing, "this art is no joke

i love this @Arzola_d."

Soon after, Arzola received death threats because of his work and had to leave his family behind and flee Venezuela. Undeterred, Arzola was now free to paint his "inner universe."

In 2014, Arzola collaborated with the It Gets Better Project, creating illustrations highlighting issues facing LGBTQ youth worldwide.

On May 17, 2017, the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, Arzola revealed a mural he had been working on in Montevideo, Uruguay.

The objective of his work was to respond

against the violence and hate from people that attack what they don't understand.

Additionally, he has been teaching activism at various universities, including the University of Alberta and Amherst College, and working on a children's book about families with same-sex parents.

His biggest project of 2017 was illustrating a Pride Month video series for the 2017 Logo Trailblazer Honors Awards, which were narrated by Laverne Cox.

The videos were aimed at celebrating famous queer figures throughout history. His work can also be found in the New York City subway.

His artwork is meant to be a message in a bottle for anyone out in the world struggling in a sea of homophobia and loneliness. A shield against hatred and misunderstanding.

As I looked up at him on the stage, I couldn't help but be impressed by his determination to spread his message to everyone, overcoming language barriers with the directness of his art.

During the Q&A session at the end of Arzola's presentation, someone asked how he deals with sadness and the oppressive images and unfair treatment he's witnessed.

"Emotions are like diseases. You can't fight them," Arzola responded. "I think society teaches every person how to be happy all the time. And then when you feel another emotion you feel guilty of what you feel... You have to live it, you can't fight against that."

And that's exactly what Arzola did. He embraced his "darkness" and used his power, his art, to advocate for a new Venezuela and a better world.

He went from lying on a mattress on the floor in Venezuela, listening to gunshots outside his window, to dining with Cyndi Lauper in New York City and advocating for a whole generation.

"It's a telenovela," Arzola said. "I have my happy ending."

Halloween Lantern Parade illuminates Patterson Park

By SARAH SCHREIB
Senior Staff Writer

Lights of all shapes and colors danced across the night sky this past weekend as community members gathered together in Patterson Park for the 18th annual Great Halloween Lantern Parade & Festival.

The festival was organized by the Creative Alliance, an organization founded in 1995 that seeks to support the arts community in Baltimore.

The event was sponsored by a number of other community organizations, including the Friends of Patterson Park, the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, the Maryland State Arts Council and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts.

The festival, which catered mainly toward families and young children, began at 3:30 p.m. It included a variety of festive activities including a kids' costume contest, lantern making, face painting, hayrides and outdoor yoga.

Arts and crafts stands selling clothing, flags and smaller homemade crafts lined the paths of the park.

The creators of the festival also supported local Baltimore food companies. There were nearly a dozen food trucks lining the back of the event area including Mexican on the Run, Wild Thyme and Greek on the Street.

The Halloween spirit was alive and well, with people of all ages crowded into the park dressed in a variety of creative costumes, from giraffes and Jedis to princesses and gory ghosts.

Even pets were dressed up for the occasion. In addition to the Halloween theme,

people also embraced the "lantern" element of the festival by stringing colored lights around their necks, bikes and strollers. By nightfall, the park was almost exclusively lit by colorful strings.

The parade began at 7 p.m. (when the sun had set) so the lights and handmade lanterns could be seen and enjoyed. The theme for this year's parade was "Rise," a celebration of nature and community.

According to the Creative Alliance's website, these elements are significant because both "grow stronger and rise when they're treasured."

This was notably different from last year's theme, which focused on celebrating the traditions of *Día de los Muertos*, a traditionally Mexican holiday in which the living pay respect to the dead.

The route of the marchers began at the Boat Lake in the Patterson Park, heading east to the Park Annex and then back at the Pulaski Monument for the finale on the main stage.

The parade featured a variety of enormous, colorfully lit floats that were carried by different groups.

These ranged from a blinking green bird to a white, wide-eyed ghost to a mermaid

skeleton pulled by glowing seahorses to a slinky, multi-sectioned dragon with sapphire eyes.

The Creative Alliance had its own float: a dark purple bat with wings covered in white string lights. Some floats were designed by local, well-known artists while others were crafted by private groups.

There were also stilt walkers, drummers, groups of students from nearby elementary schools and a mariachi band. The iconic Baltimore "Hons" marched in their vibrant, neon outfits.

Any community members who wanted to join in were welcome to walk with their own lanterns, alongside the planned performers.

As the marchers walked past, audience members cheered and clapped, calling out the names of the different floats. The entire parade lasted close to an hour, the drums and horns blasting into the night until the performers finally found their way to the stage at the Pulaski Monument.

Holly Tice, a senior at

Hopkins who attended the festival and parade for the first time, commented on her enjoyable experience.

"I liked watching all the kids dance in the parade and seeing the floats go by," she said. "You could see how much effort everyone involved put into it, and it really paid off because it was a lot of fun."

With events like the Festival, the Creative Alliance seeks to fulfill their mission of bringing together diverse communities in Baltimore through the arts. The organization has several events scheduled for the remainder of 2017.

On Nov. 2 they will host an event titled "Flickering Treasures: Highlandtown's Historic Movie Houses," which will celebrate Highlandtown's old movie theaters with a slideshow from photographer Amy Davis.

On Nov. 8 the alliance is partnering with the B'nai Israel Congregation to present the klezmer musician Andy Statman and his trio.



COURTESY OF SARAH SCHREIB

The Parade was put on by the Creative Alliance, an organization that seeks to support the arts.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Field of Screams lives up to its fearful reputation



LANCE CPL. JORDEN WELLS/PUBLIC DOMAIN
Haunted attractions like Field of Screams are popular around Halloween.

By COLE DOUGLASS
For The News-Letter

As you may know, Field of Screams is an annual haunted house extravaganza located in Lancaster, Pa. It has been rated the "Best Extreme Haunted Attraction" by *USA Today*, and its website boasts many testimonials that make it perfectly clear that Field of Screams is a terrifying place.

As a disclaimer, I do not like frightening things. I am the kind of person who pauses a horror movie every 20 seconds so that I can catch my breath. Every year, my high school offered a trip to Field of Screams, and I never went because I knew it would be a miserable evening. I do not like being scared, and I certainly don't like paying people to scare me.

Thus, it would follow that when one of my high school friends called me on Tuesday and asked if I would go with her to Field of Screams, I was pretty reluctant. Unfortunately for me, I try to be a good friend, and before long, I was convinced to join her.

It was only afterward that I realized what I had just gotten myself into, but at that point it was too late. My fate was sealed. At long last, I was Field of Screams bound.

The park was divided into four sections, each with its own theme. Meanwhile, the Haunted Hayride was a thematic grab bag.

My friend and I rode along on the tractor full of hay as we were taken through a variety of set pieces. At each stop, we were harassed by flashing lights, ominous music and an impressive group of incredibly dedicated actors.

One locale was designed to resemble a spider's den, with web-bound forms throwing plastic arachnids at the guests. Another highlight involved a group of bloodied, pig-mask-wearing actors waving strikingly realistic cleavers in the air.

Needless to say, I spent the entire ride with my hand firmly wrapped around my friend's arm, refusing to make eye contact with any of the performers. The only time I looked up was when one of the cast members complimented my hair.

Just when I thought I'd found a moment of refuge from the terror, he abruptly threatened to rip it out of my scalp and wear it himself. Good times.

The first of the traditional haunted houses was the Nightmare Asylum. It was in an overwhelmingly claustrophobic building — all of the doors are only about five feet tall — full of insane doctors and patients.

The strobe lighting in

one room was so strong that it had the effect of disorienting me to the point that I could just barely make out where the path was leading. Later we had to push our way through a pitch-black tunnel as hands grabbed at us from behind the walls.

I was fortunate enough to go through the asylum immediately after a man who was far more frightened than I was. His screams of terror drew the attention of all of the monstrous patients and doctors, so I was able to get through relatively unscathed.

Nevertheless I still spent most of the walk with my hands wrapped around the straps of my friend's bag.

The other haunted house, the Den of Darkness, served as a much more terrifying version of the Haunted Mansion. The house boasted several set pieces, such as a room filled entirely with sheet-covered mannequins and a playroom filled with discarded dolls with porcelain masks stapled to their faces.

In my opinion, the worst portion of the tour was the attic, where we had to crawl through a passageway on our hands and knees. Unexpectedly, there were 'corpses' scattered throughout the path, and I was never quite sure whether or not they were going to spring to life and grab me.

The final attraction was the Nocturnal Wasteland, the only one to take us outdoors. At this stage we were forced to walk through pools of "radioactive waste," dodge mutant raiders and even revisit one of the stops from the Haunted Hayride.

An especially tense mood filled the air as we walked through a derelict school bus full of shadowy figures taunting us more with each step we took.

The Nocturnal Wasteland was probably my favorite of the four attractions, mostly because it relied on the natural atmosphere for most of its scares.

Walking through the woods in the middle of the night is inherently terrifying, and the actors were able to effectively play off of that energy.

In the end Field of Screams lived up to all of the hype. Each attraction was a non-stop barrage of frights and horror, and it was obvious that the owners had perfected their craft over the last 25 years.

If you're ever in the mood for a horrifying haunted house experience, I'd highly recommend checking them out.

After all, if I was able to make it through the night and enjoy myself, then it should be a cakewalk for a true horror fan.

Suburbicon is a tepid take on a controversial topic

By LUIS CURIEL
For The News-Letter

I did it for the fans. In a week when the biggest film being released was *Jigsaw* (because we need another *Saw* film) and when the film that I was looking forward to watching got critically panned (*Suburbicon*), I thought I'd have to watch *Geostorm*.

Unfortunately, the pretentious kid in me wouldn't let me skip a film in which the Coen bothers (*Inside Llewyn Davis*, *No Country for Old Men*) were credited as writers.

So I trudged along in the rain to watch *Suburbicon*, George Clooney's sixth film as a director. The Coen brothers originally wrote the script for *Suburbicon* in 1986 after they released *Blood Simple* (their directorial debut), but it was never pushed into production.

Flash forward to 2005, and it was reported that Clooney would direct in the film.

However, no updates came until 2015, when it

was announced that Matt Damon, Julianne Moore and Josh Brolin had joined the cast. Then, in May of last year it was announced that Woody Harrelson and Oscar Isaac had also joined the cast.

Unfortunately, Harrelson had to drop out of the project due to scheduling issues (it would have overlapped with filming for Rob Reiner's *Shock and Awe*). After years of work, Clooney and the rest of the crew began filming that fall. The finished product premiered at the Venice International Film Festival this past September.

Suburbicon follows a mild-mannered father, Gardner Lodge (Damon), trying to face his demons after a break in ends in the death of his wife Rose (Moore). Or at least that's what the trailers want you to think. The marketing team wants you to believe that Gardner was an innocent bystander in this tragic home invasion, who is now looking for revenge.

Margaret, Rose's twin



GABBOT/CC BY-SA 2.0
Iconic actor George Clooney directed *Suburbicon*, his sixth film as director.

sister (also played by Moore), is a pill snorter damaged by the murder of her sister, and Bud Cooper (Isaac) is the head of the mob that took out Rose. The trailer does a fantastic job of selling you the dark humor that's commonly found in Coen brothers films.

That being said, the film's subplot-but-not-really is what brings it down. What the trailers fail to show you is that

this film is set in the 1950s, right before the peak of the Civil Rights movement, and that *Suburbicon* is set in an idyllic neighborhood full of white middle-class families. Everything is perfect, until a young African-American family, the Mayers, move in.

This sets off the people in the neighborhood. One of the neighbors can be heard saying something along the lines of "I don't want them to be oppressed, but..." The community quickly comes to attribute the trouble that Gardner and his family have gotten into to the arrival of their new black neighbors.

As you can probably tell, the two plots don't really mesh well. The only thing loosely tying them together is the friendship between Gardner's son and the Mayers' son. Yet, even so, it feels unnecessary.

It is clear what Clooney was trying to do here. There's obviously irony in how the cops and the rest of the town are staging a mini-riot in front of the Mayers' home while the house behind it has all sorts of criminal activity going on — not to mention, a damn fire explosion went off.

While I appreciate this attempt by Clooney to show us how #woke he is, at the end of the day, the film's message doesn't land.

It was infuriating to see such disrespect and bigotry portrayed on screen and not even have some sort of payoff, no cathartic moment — nothing.

It would've served the movie best not to touch this subject and instead focus more on the classic Coen Brothers and family-crime-comedy elements.

Performance-wise, we have stars who know what to bring to the table. Oscar Isaac, my Guatemalan brother, is one of two standouts here. He does a great job at selling the humorous moments he's given.

The second standout is Noah Jupe, who plays Nicky, Gardner's son. We spend a good amount of time with him, watching how his father's decisions effectively destroy his innocence.

There's not much else to praise here. The film feels mismatched with two separate plots that are unsatisfactorily woven together and ultimately leave you uninterested in its conclusion.

I would love to see what the Coen Brothers would have done with this. Clooney and co., unfortunately, faltered.

Three stand-outs from October's releases

NEW MUSIC, FROM B3

a self-titled album, was serviceable but did not turn too many heads.

In *The Space Between*, I hoped that the group would learn from past missteps and try to make music that is more dynamic, more human and more enthralling. Unfortunately, they do almost nothing to change their sound. This album sounds like a direct continuation of the sessions from the last project.

The formula for a Majid Jordan track is simple and after a couple listens completely loses its appeal. Jordan Ullman creates a beat — with a heavy kick and lots of low end (fitting the so-called "OVO sound") — that is sprinkled with some atmospheric sounds and lots of sine wave synths.

Then Majid Al Maskati hops onto the track, dragging out long notes with his high, nasally voice, which is lathered with compression and reverb and then pushed back into the mix.

His voice is good, but his singing is treated almost as another layer of instrumentation to the beat; just melded into the general soundscape. Along with this monotonous sound design, the songwriting is also stale.

In writing this review, I went back and listened to their very first EP, *A Place Like This*. I was shocked by how creative and unique that project was. The tracks, though still having the general format of a Majid Jordan song, are all distinct and interesting.

"Forever" has a pounding dancey kick and choral backing, "Her" is a beautiful ballad and "A Place Like This" has a booming sub-bass with a beautiful melody — it is a joy to listen to.

The major difference between Majid Jordan's earlier output and the stuff they make now is that they made sparser, skimmer music before, that used the silence and rhythm to emphasize atmosphere and sadness.

The old style also gave Majid space to go on his falsetto trills and croons.

However, with each project, while the production gets more and more thick, the music gets more and more boring, and the atmosphere is distilled into just flat OVO sound fodder. I would love it if they distanced themselves from the same synthy, slow and boring music and dedicated themselves to creating cool, novel grooves.

Mississippi rapper Big K.R.I.T. got some serious, significant hype after his phenomenal verse on "I Train," Joey Badass' banging posse track. But as rappers are wont to do, he let this huge wave of interest die down.

For a while, K.R.I.T. was missing from the scene almost completely. Now K.R.I.T. has released *4eva Is a Mighty Long Time*, his third project, a double album and, in my opinion, his most successful project yet.

This is a Southern project. The music is smooth, loud, unapologetic and proud. There are songs here in which K.R.I.T. showcases his power as an MC. Over loud banging beats that need a commanding presence to be tamed, K.R.I.T. whips them into shape with his a sweet, strong Southern drawl. This is a flow that I have missed in modern hip hop.

This isn't an album of empty flexes or flat meaningless verses. This is a project that truly introduces you to K.R.I.T., from his greatest braggadocio to his deepest insecurities.

The project goes from classic Southern hits, like "Subenstein (My Sub IV)" — a banging track about the sub-bass coming alive — to delicate, touching

pieces like "Everlasting."

There are definitely duds on this project. The most egregious is "1999," a song that could have easily been on a weak mixtape from 2007. The hook — "Back that ass up like it's 1999" — is neither clever nor catchy. Also, having a great value Ty Dolla \$ign sing it doesn't help the cause.

This is also a rare project in which the skits are hilarious and easily re-listenable. The art of the skit is one that has been lost in modern hip hop. The "Classic Interlude" on this project made me burst out laughing the first time I heard it, and on subsequent re-listens, I never skipped it.

"I really wanna sing but I better rap," K.R.I.T. says on "Mixed Messages," a song he ironically sings on. I agree with his statement, and I wish he kept the singing to a minimum.

His voice is deep, gritty and powerful. When he raps, his drawl is unique and strong. When he sings, his voice falters and sounds far more amateurish and unsure.

The biggest problem with this project is its length. A double album is a difficult thing to pull off, and while K.R.I.T. does a great job, he still creates a whole lot of filler.

There are some tracks on here that should have just been cut. If he had condensed this double album into one polished record, it would have been significantly more listenable.

Nonetheless, this is a great album — one that should make the South proud.



THE COME UP SHOW/CC BY 2.0
Artist Ty Dolla \$ign's latest album follows his 2016 mixtape *Campaign*.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Students enjoy evening at Meyerhoff Symphony Hall

By ANNE HOLLMULLER
For The News-Letter

On Friday night, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) held a special college night event following their regular weekly concert, offering Baltimore students free food, giveaways and the chance to mingle with members of the orchestra.

Following the concert program featuring Mendelssohn, Debussy and Tchaikovsky, several dozen students gathered in the lobby for an after-party which included free pizza and \$2 beer specials in the Meyerhoff Lounge.

Another feature of the college night was the special price, only \$10 for an evening of classical music and this exclusive, students-only gathering.

The evening's program was entitled "Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn" under the direction of Musical Director Marin Alsop. The first half of the evening's program included Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky, with Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream Overture" being a light and airy opening for the evening's program.

Next was a performance of Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme," which featured cello soloist and 2011 Tchaikovsky competition winner Narek Hakhnazaryan. This was a change from the concert plan, as cellist Sol Gabetta had been scheduled to per-

form as soloist but was unexpectedly replaced.

Narek Hakhnazaryan is a cellist originally from Yerevan, Armenia who is currently touring North America with over a dozen orchestral and recital works. He has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City as well as in a recital locally at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Hakhnazaryan is artist-in-residence with the Malta Philharmonic and has toured the United Kingdom, China and Hong Kong with colleagues Zhang Zhou and Esther Yoo as part of the Z.E.N. Trio.

This was his debut performance with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Following this performance, *The Baltimore Sun* labeled Hakhnazaryan as "the real deal" for his precise articulation as well as his deeply poetic interpretation of Tchaikovsky's lyrical work.

Besides receiving critical praise, Hakhnazaryan received a standing ovation from the audience at Meyerhoff Symphony Hall and was elected to perform an encore. He played a work entitled "Lamentatio," by Italian composer and cellist Giovanni Sollima.

This piece included repeated vocalizations and highlighted the masterful command which Hakhnazaryan possesses over both his instrument and his voice.

Following the intermission, the Orchestra played "Prelude to the Afternoon of

a Faun" by Claude Debussy, and "Der Rosenkavalier Suite" by Richard Strauss. The "Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun" is a symphonic poem for orchestra first performed in Paris in December 1894.

The prelude features a lyrical flute solo that was performed by Baltimore Symphony Orchestra musician Emily Skala.

"Der Rosenkavalier," or "The Knight of the Rose" or "The Rose-Bearer," features themes from a comic opera in three acts by Strauss and German librettist Hugo von Hofmannsthal.

The usual audience was slightly smaller than is normal due to the Halloween weekend. However students were in robust attendance, and many joined the after-party in the Meyerhoff Lounge following the performance.

Several dozen students gathered in the lobby to socialize and have the chance to meet Baltimore Symphony Orchestra musicians. On the bar tables were giveaway items offered by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, including drink cozies and promotional materials for upcoming college nights and the BSO Pulse series.

Hopkins junior Thaara Shankar attended the event with friends and enjoyed the concert as well as the post-performance party. As a Student Select member, she appreciates the Orchestra's efforts to make classical music and the arts accessible to

more young people, including her fellow students.

"It's nice to see the BSO reaching out to college students, especially as many arts organizations often neglect our age group," said Shankar. "It's great to see this accessibility, because many arts experiences have traditionally been framed or perceived to be framed for an incredibly small percentage of population."

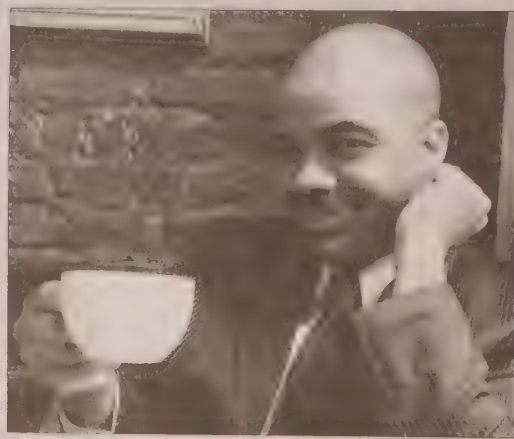
College nights at the BSO are part of a larger desire to attract a younger and more diverse audience to the symphony through event nights and discounted student tickets.

The Orchestra offers a Student Select Passport, which allows students to obtain tickets for all of the Orchestra's regular season concerts for an annual fee of \$35. Printed cards were placed on the seats reserved by BSO Student Select members to remind them of the after-party taking place following the concert.

The BSO Pulse series, which features performances by independent artists accompanied by members of the Orchestra, has also worked to attract new audiences to Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

Upcoming performances in the BSO Pulse series include a show on Jan. 4 with Tank and the Bangas and a performance on March 22 with Valerie June. Tickets to both performances are available starting at \$25.

Professor pop culture picks: Nathan Connolly



COURTESY OF NATHAN CONNOLLY
Professor Connolly is a faculty member in the history department.

Blood In the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and its Legacy by Heather Ann Thompson

It's almost too easy to recommend a book that won the Pulitzer Prize. I'd argue, though, that Thompson's book is underrated. Undoubtedly the definitive treatment of one of the twentieth-century's most important events, Thompson's book also represents the pinnacle of historical recovery, meaty and lucid theorization on the nature of labor behind bars, and on the ways in which people attempt to preserve the reformative possibilities of American institutions even as they suffer the most dehumanizing brutality within them. This book reads like a dream and hits like a bus traveling at full speed, loaded with bricks.

The Infinity Gauntlet Written by: Jim Starlin Illustrated by:

George Pérez & Ron Lima

In the 1990s, this was the first comic book storyline my friends and I wished they'd made into movie. Lo and behold, Marvel Studios is now making that happen. If you want to understand what the last decade of Marvel movies has been leading up to, check out this amazing account of the Mad Titan Thanos and what his attainment of omnipotence means for the fate of the universe. Written before Marvel developed the notion of many different universes (The Multiverse), the *Infinity Gauntlet* left readers no narrative way out of having to face the possibility of a malevolent and deeply insecure supreme being. The *Infinity Gauntlet* achieves an incredible balance of being capacious without being convoluted, achieving deepness without being ponderous and getting resolved without falling into cliché.

Life of the Infamous: The Best of Mobb Deep by Mobb Deep

Your favorite hip-hop group's favorite group. Mobb Deep achieved and preserved a gritty East Coast sound that even Nas could not maintain after the "Bling"-turn in rap music in the mid-1990s. They also kept a high-level of production and pared-back lyrical punch at a time when super-producers like Dr. Dre and DJ Premier, moguls like Diddy, or lyrical gods like Biggie, Pac, Jay-Z and Nas seemed to earn the greatest respect. And then, of course, there was Wu-Tang Clan, who literally needed nine emcees, two New York City boroughs and "36 Chambers" to accomplish what two undersized dudes from Queens were doing at the same time.

Barnstormers stun with Midsummer Night's Dream

By AMELIA ISAACS
For The News-Letter

One of Shakespeare's most famous comedies, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is, arguably, also one of Shakespeare's lightest and most accessible plays.

It follows two sets of lovers and a cast of common players on a journey into the forest for a night of chaos at the hands of some mischievous fairies.

It is a fun play and one that anyone, from Shakespeare fanatic to STEM major, can enjoy.

"No other play in the canon has been so oft dissected and re-contextualized," director Karack Osborn wrote in the playbill.

It is also a play that most people have seen (second only maybe to *Romeo and Juliet*), studied or at least know the general plot of.

As such, it is a play that you can sit back and enjoy without having to think too much about — simply allow the magic to wash over you.

The play opens with white lights illuminating

the stage as Peter Quince, a representation of Shakespeare played by sophomore S. Usman Enam, stands center stage scribbling madly into a notebook.

He draws each character up individually onto the square platform set in the middle of the stage until the entire cast is standing on it, as if he's writing them into the story.

From there we move into the play with Theseus (junior David Gumino) and Hippolyta (senior Elizabeth Winkelhoff) before swiftly moving on to the realm of the fairies and the mystical.

With the raising of Puck's (senior Allie Zito) hand, the stage is enveloped in a warm glow as the wistful canopy that hovers above the actor's heads is lit up with, quite fittingly, twinkling fairy lights.

The lights and the staging are expertly used, and there is a wonderful balance between the production being incredibly minimalistic but also not coming across as too sim-

ple or plain.

Controlled by the fairies, in particular Puck and Oberon (Gunimo), the beautiful golden fairy lights and the white canopy is lit up with soft pinks and blues and yellows and then cast into darkness again, further adding to the mystical feeling of the world of the forest.

Through just having the most essential props and staging, the actors are left to rely heavily on the words they've been given.

The play is written largely in iambic pentameter, which presents challenges, according to sophomore Sebastian Durfee who plays Lysander.

"[It is] both a blessing and a curse," he said. "It allows you to remember it in a rhythm but it's a very, very convoluted language."

Ritika Kommareddi, who plays Philostrate and the First Fairy, also noted the difficulties associated with the complicated language.

"It forces you to be able to show the story that you're trying to tell because Shakespeare is so difficult to understand sometimes," she said. "We couldn't use anything except our words and emotions," she said.

It is clear that Osborn is very much a purist and that staying true to exactly what Shakespeare wrote and what he intended was very important to him.

However, this in no way meant that any of the language seem forced or unnatural. When Shakespeare is done well, you forget that the actors are not speaking the way we would every day, and the actors definitely achieved that.

While the actors definitely take advantage of the numerous comical moments in the play — it is, after all, a comedy — there is also a clear emphasis on including serious, poignant moments as well.

"We tried to veer away from being a pure comedy. Our director made sure we paid attention to the serious stuff too, and I think that definitely helps the comedy," sophomore Carver Bain, who plays Demetrius and was also the publicity manager, said.

It is clear that every single person in this production worked extremely hard to make it work.

With just four weeks of rehearsal, three weeks in the space and a director based in New York City (who drove to Baltimore for rehearsals each weekend Thursday through Sunday), what the Barnstormers have managed to pull off is amazing.

"It was incredibly daunting from the beginning, but everyone decided we were all going to work so hard because every single person knew that they had to be doing their job as well as possible for us to be able to pull something like this off," stage manager Tori Lyons said.

Kommareddi and sophomore Emily Lee, who played Robin Starveling and Peaseblossom, said the show offers a perfect mix of sex, violence, magic and humor.

What more could you possibly want from a night at the theatre?

The show will be at the Swirnow Theatre in the Martin Center from Nov. 3 to 5.



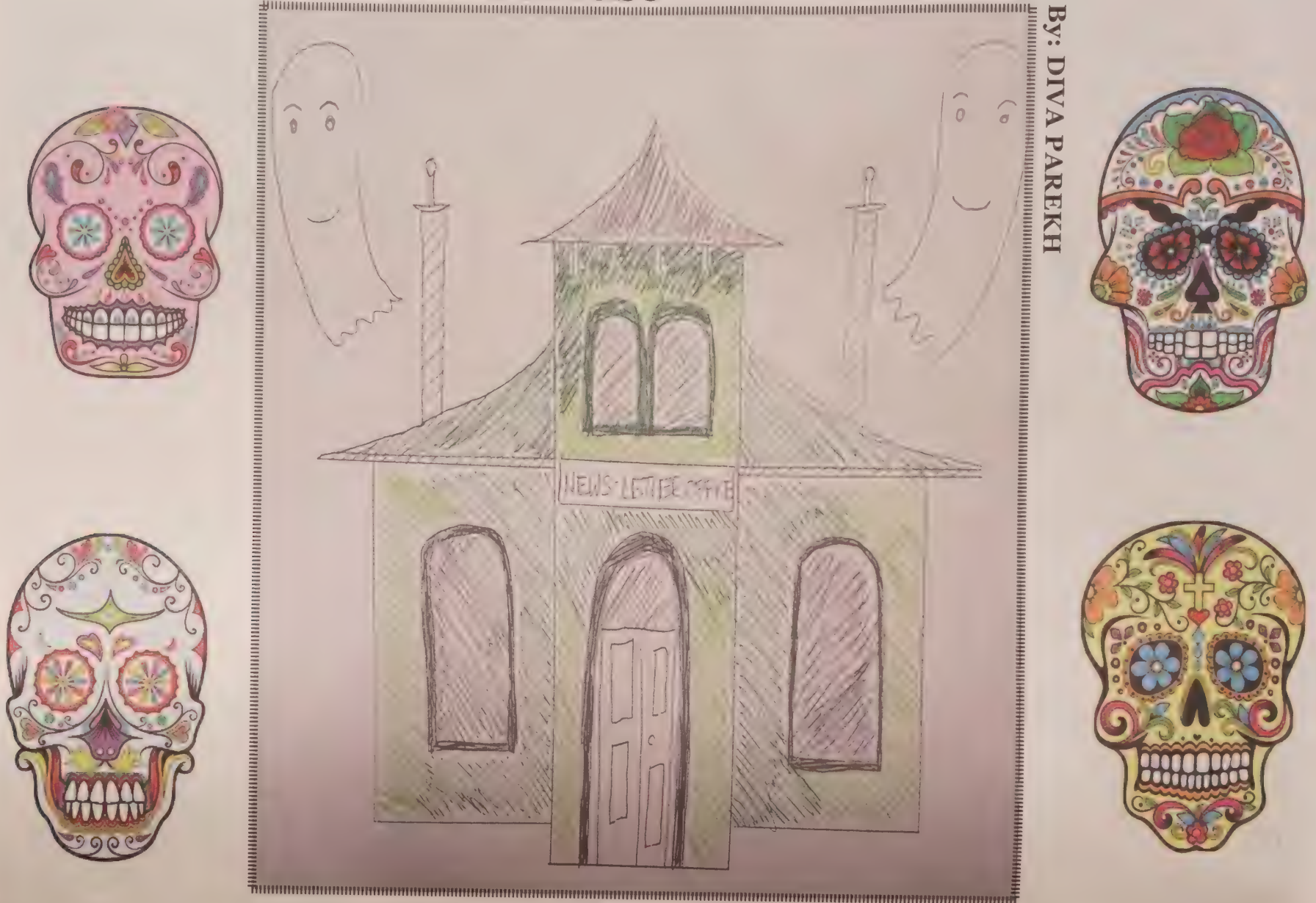
COURTESY OF JHU BARNSTORMERS

The Barnstormers' next performance of *Midsummer* is this Friday at 8 p.m.

CARTOONS, ETC.

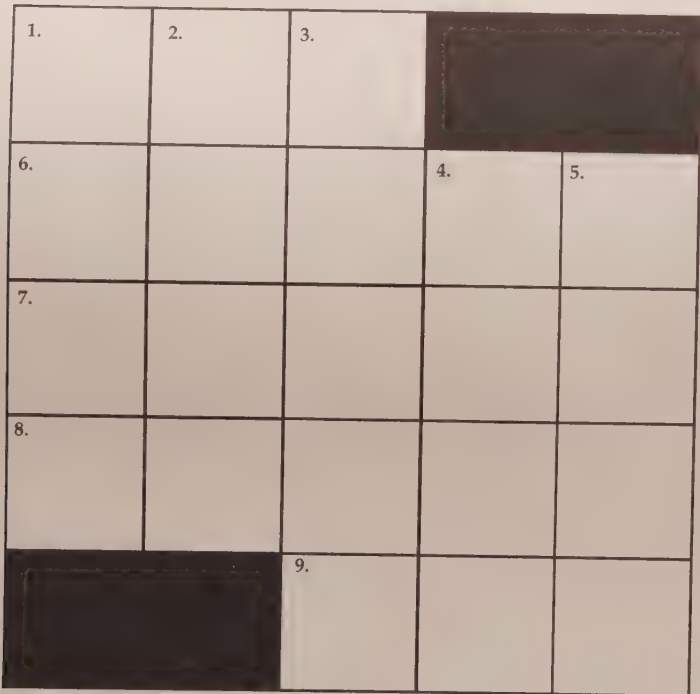
The Ghoulatehouse

By: DIVA PAREKH



11/02/2017 Crossword

By: ROLLIN HU



Across

1. A little bed
6. AFL-CIO
7. Ledge
8. Ivan, Peter, Alexander, Nicholas
9. Allow

Down

1. Scientology, Greek Life and the FB Memes page
2. Fist full of Washingtons
3. Jay Z's music streaming service
4. Shrek
5. A Blue Jay's home

Answers available online at www.jhunewsletter.com/category/cartoons/

What Number Should Replace "X"?

By: GISELLE RUIZ



Only Use Simple Addition

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Professor discusses work on NASA twin study *Cataract complications afflict Ebola survivors*



COURTESY OF SABRINA CHEN

Dr. Andrew Feinberg studies the effects that spaceflight has on human genetic expression.

By **ANNA CHEN**
For *The News-Letter*

Last Thursday evening in Mason Hall, students and faculty attended the second Conversations in Medicine seminar of this semester.

This event highlighted the research surrounding NASA's Twins study which studied the lives of

identical twins Scott and Mark Kelly. Scott Kelly spent a year in space while his twin, Mark, stayed on Earth.

Conversations in Medicine, also known as CiM, is a lecture series co-hosted by the Johns Hopkins Women's Pre-Health Leadership Society (WPHLS) and Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED), two pre-profession-

al organizations for students looking to pursue a career in health or medicine.

The CiM committee consists of a few designated executive board members from both pre-health societies, and every month CiM brings in health professionals

who are experts in their respective fields to speak to undergraduate students.

CiM has been operating for four years at Hopkins, with the 2017-2018 school year marking the fifth.

Each year has a different theme and this year's is "Age of Ingenuity." The particular CiM event this past week was a lecture on Space Medicine by Dr. Andrew Feinberg, King Fahd professor of medicine, oncology, molecular biology and genetics at the Hopkins School of Medicine and principal investigator of NASA's famous Twins Study.

The event was sponsored by the Hopkins Parents Fund and Space@

Hopkins, the latter of which is a group focusing on exposing the student body to space-related activities, exploration and research efforts at Hopkins.

The was kicked off in the evening with the Space@ Hopkins Social Hour, during which attendees from WPHLS, AED and Space@ Hopkins mingled with other undergraduates, graduates, faculty and interested members of the community.

Feinberg then began the talk by describing his experience working at NASA and leading the Twins Study.

Through using powerful instruments in full-genome sequencing, the Twins Study aimed to provide valuable insight into the effects that spaceflight has on human genetic expression and its implications on personalized medicine.

Feinberg described the many obstacles space medicine research faces that scientists on the ground do not often need to consider.

For example Feinberg described the methods that he used for taking blood samples from the twins (or potentially other crew members who got sick) for molecular tests back on Earth.

"We had to go through

SEE SPACE, PAGE B9

By **ALLISON CHEN**
For *The News-Letter*

Between 2014 and 2016, an epidemic of Ebola swept across West Africa, infecting over 28,600 people and leaving over 10,000 dead. In Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, where the epidemic was primarily located, the disease left behind around 17,000 survivors. Many of them are now dealing with an unexpected complication: cataracts.

Ebola, properly known as Ebola virus disease, is a severe viral hemorrhagic fever that was first observed in central Africa in 1976. Since then, it has appeared in intermittent outbreaks, with mortality rates ranging from 25 percent to 90 percent.

The 2014-2016 epidemic was unique not only because it was the largest one to date, but also because its death rate hovered around 50 percent, lower than that of many prior outbreaks. The combination of these two factors has meant that researchers have observed an unprecedented number and variety of post-infection complications, with cataracts being one of the most dreaded.

Cataracts involves the clouding of the eye's lens, which can lead to eventual blindness, and although they are normally seen in

older individuals, cataracts have been observed in Ebola survivors as young as five years old. In the case of Ebola survivors, the direct cause of the cataracts was often a type of inflammation inside the eye, called uveitis.

Cataract surgery can be useful in repairing sight, by removing the damaged lens and inserting an artificial one. However, surgeons were often wary of operating, concerned that the Ebola virus might still be present in the eye.

A team of researchers from Emory University made several visits to West Africa, to determine if the virus was still present in survivors' eyes. They discovered that although the live virus could be detected at first, after a certain period of time, tests began to come back negative.

This does not necessarily prove that the pathogen had actually been eliminated by the immune system, but it is considered an indication that the eye is safe to operate on.

One of the researchers was Dr. Ian Crozier, an Ebola survivor who had suffered from uveitis and cataracts himself after contracting the disease while treating patients in Sierra Leone during the epidemic.

"The same things you go through today, I went

SEE EBOLA, PAGE B9

Ataxia Ambassadors club hosts annual arts event

By **JONATHAN PATTERSON**
For *The News-Letter*

On Saturday, Oct. 28, Ataxia Ambassadors at Hopkins hosted their annual Arts for Ataxia event. Ataxia describes symptoms of poor coordination and difficulty with fine motor skills.

The gathering was an opportunity for persons with ataxia, caregivers and volunteers to interact and listen to performances.

In addition, for the first time, the event hosted a speaker and a discussion panel.

Senior Rohith Bhethanabotla, the president of Ataxia Ambassadors, explained the goals of the annual event.

"The main purpose of the event is twofold, to host a community event for people with ataxia in the Mid-Atlantic area and raise awareness about the disorder to our undergrad-

uate students who help volunteer," Bhethanabotla said.

The featured research speaker was Amanda Therrien. Currently a post-doctoral fellow at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, she works with Amy Bastian in the Motion Analysis Lab, studying reinforcement learning and its potential to help patients with cerebellar ataxia.

Her presentation began by introducing cerebellar ataxia.

This disease is a degenerative neurological disorder which affects muscle control and coordination, resulting from a dysfunctional or damaged cerebellum.

The cerebellum is the specific part of the brain with the function of controlling motor movement and coordination. Many symptoms of cerebellar ataxia mimic those of being drunk, including

SEE ATAXIA, PAGE B9

By **SHERRY SIMKOVIC**
Staff Writer

Over the past 200 years, since the start of the Industrial Revolution, pollution has increased sharply.

Defined as contaminants in the natural environment, pollution can take the form of light, water or even noise. Yet one of the worst types of pollution is air pollution.

Fuel combustion, resulting from driving cars and trucks and industrial manufacturing, releases carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and lead into the air.

Air pollution has directly contributed to two-thirds of the total contamination. Not only has pollution negatively affected the environment, the process has also caused the onset of chronic diseases such as ischaemic heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and lung cancer, as well as water-and vector-borne diseases such as E. coli and malaria.

A new study published in *The Lancet* demonstrated that an estimated nine million people, nearly one in six, die of diseases caused by pollution.

The researchers found that in low and middle-income countries such as Kenya and Bangladesh, one out of every four people dies of a pollution-related ailment. The poor and the young are particularly vulnerable.

Workers in poor condi-

tions, such as those in dye factories and miners who are exposed to toxins, have an added risk to develop cancer, which results in an additional 800,000 deaths annually. Yet the governments of these countries have yet to respond to the growing death toll.

Most of the deaths have occurred in India and China, with an estimated 2.5 million and 1.8 million deaths respectively. The study that investigated the widespread effects of pollution was led in part by Philip Landrigan, dean for global health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and co-chair of the commission behind the report.

"Going into this, my colleagues and I knew that pollution killed a lot of people. But we certainly did not have any idea of the total magnitude of the problem. I think all of us were really surprised when we saw this," Landrigan said in an interview with *The Washington Post*.

The study, which was conducted over two years and across over 130 different countries, aimed to raise global awareness of pollution and galvanize political response and subsequent resources needed to confront pollution head on.

To do so, the authors made six key recommendations, ranging from integrating pollution prevention into country and city planning processes, to researching pollution control to drive change in pollution policy.

As pollution contin-



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Pollution increases risk of life threatening diseases in developing nations.

ues to worsen around the world, the problem adds not only to health issues but also financial issues. The authors of the study debunked claims that pollution control stifles economic growth by pointing to the U.S.

Since Richard Nixon introduced the Clean Air Act of 1970, air pollution has decreased by 70 percent, and the GDP has increased by nearly 250 percent.

Despite efforts to combat pollution, many still subscribe to the so-called "environmental Kuznets hypothesis," a theory developed by economist Simon Kuznets.

This hypothesis states that as a society moves away from an agrarian economy and industrializes, pollution and environmental degradation are necessary evils that will disappear as the economy grows. Landrigan dismissed this idea, calling it an old wives' tale.

Landrigan and the other authors urged countries to reduce pollution to amelio-

rate health conditions for their citizens while prospering economically in the process of cleaning up the environment.

"It doesn't have to [get worse]. It's not an inevitable outcome. Pollution control is a winnable battle," Landrigan.

The authors of the study have begun to organize a new Global Pollution Observatory, an institution dedicated to providing data to countries to assist in their prioritizing pollution.

Gina McCarthy, a former Environmental Protection Agency administrator talked to *The Washington Post* about the importance of continuing their efforts.

"It's very clear if you go to other countries, and it's clear if you go to some of our own communities that they are being held back because of the impact of pollution on their kids and their elderly," McCarthy said. "And we have to stop thinking that because we can't see the pollution and it's not as visible that it's not there."



COURTESY OF MELISSA CHANG

Adoremus, an acapella group, performs at the Arts for Ataxia annual event.

DNA debunks theory of “Baby talk” is more complicated than we think

Easter Island ancestry

By **SHERRY SIMKOVIC**
Staff Writer

In a new study, published in *Current Biology*, geneticists at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UC Santa Cruz) have delved into the ancestry of the people of Easter Island. They used genomics to prove that the Polynesians on the island had no contact with the indigenous peoples of South America prior to 1722.

As ancient peoples developed the technology to travel, they began to settle all over the world. Anthropologists believe that a group of people called the Austronesian Polynesians, who came from the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia, first settled the land around 300 to 400 C.E.

As one of the most isolated geographical locations on Earth, the settlers, also known as the Rapa Nui, lived on the island for centuries. In 1722, the first Dutch explorer, Jacob Roggeveen, arrived. From then on European navigators visited the Rapa Nui every few decades.

Many scientists and historians have surmised that Native South Americans may have had some sort of contact with the Rapa Nui before any Europeans did. Those who hold this opinion base it off the presence of the sweet potato, a plant native to South America, in the diet of the Rapa Nui.

Many have argued that because the sweet potato was a staple of Easter Island cuisine, indigenous peoples most likely had contact with the Rapa Nui before any Europeans arrived to the island.

Recent analysis of genome-wide single-nucleotide polymorphisms, which are where a single nucleotide in DNA differs between individuals, has also shown that today's Rapa Nui share six percent of their DNA with ancestral Native South Americans.

Scientists have subsequently conjectured that Native South Americans and the Rapa Nui met at some point between 1280 and 1425, long before Roggeveen's visit in 1722.

However, new research involving analysis of the mitochondrial and autosomal genomes of Rapa Nui skeletons in a study led by Lars Fehren-Schmitz, an associated professor of anthropology at UC Santa Cruz, debunked the theory.

Using bone fragments from the skeletal remains of five men from both pre and post 1722, of which there was only 200 milligrams of bone

mass, the team conducted an ancient DNA analysis.

The scientists dated two of the skeletons to the period between 1445 to 1625 and three of the skeletons to the period between 1815 to 1945. All of the mitochondrial genomes displayed the so-called “Polynesian motif.”

Having confirmed that the Rapa Nui descended from Polynesians, the team next checked for markers of Native South American ancestry. They discovered between zero percent and three percent Native South American ancestry compared to eight percent of Native South American ancestry in contemporary Rapa Nui genomes.

“I was pretty surprised when we didn't find any Native American signals in our pre-contact samples. Honestly, at first I thought I did something wrong with the statistics. Then it was an ‘a-ha moment,’” Fehren-Schmitz said, according to *The New York Times*.

Fehren-Schmitz suggested that due to the small sample size, the results of the study may inaccurately represent the presence of Native South American ancestry throughout the inhabitants of Easter Island. He presented one of two possibilities.

“Either that exchange didn't happen or it only happened with specific parts of the population on the island,” Fehren-Schmitz said, according to *The New York Times*.

Cat Jarman, a doctoral student and archaeologist from the University of Bristol in England and a co-author on the study, thought that the Native American ancestry in the modern DNA of the Rapa Nui may have been caused by European enslavement of the islanders.

“When we look at this modern DNA, it's not necessarily representative of the population that was there 800 years ago because so much has happened. So many people have moved because of slavery and it's had a huge genetic impact that we need to take into account when we look at the modern population,” Jarman said, according to *The New York Times*.

In the future Fehren-Schmitz hopes to do more work to determine precisely when and where the genetic exchange between the Native South Americans and the islanders occurred.

“The most likely scenario is that there wasn't a single episode. The story is simply more complicated than we expected,” Fehren-Schmitz said, according to *The New York Times*.

By **JESSICA KASAMOTO**
For *The News-Letter*

Mothers shift the tone of their voice when talking to babies.

We're all familiar with “baby talk,” the high pitched, “cooing” short words and phrases we use when speaking to infants.

However, scientists have begun to realize that “baby talk” is much more complicated than just short words and phonetic modifications.

A recent study shows that when mothers talk to their babies, the timbre of their voice shifts in a very distinct way — so much so that a machine learning algorithm could almost immediately identify between “baby talk” and normal adult speech.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, timbre is “the quality given to a sound by its overtones, such as the resonance by which the ear recognizes and identifies a voiced speech sound.”

In other words, timbre is basically the unique, identifiable quality of each sound; it's what helps you distinguish one voice from another voice or one instrument from another instrument, even when both are using the same pitch and rhythm.

While baby talk may seem to be a cute but trivial practice, it is found to play an important role in different facets of our development, according to Princeton University. These include language learning, emotional learning, language

structure and syllabic deconstruction.

In order to quantify specific aspects of baby talk, principal researcher Elise Piazza of Princeton University decided to look at the vocal patterns parents automatically fall into when speaking to their young children.

To do so Piazza recorded twelve English speaking mothers, once when they were talking to their seven to 12 month old child and once when speaking to another adult.

The researchers first quantified each mother's vocal timbre using a measurement called the mel-frequency cepstrum.

This allowed researchers to see a clear difference between the timbre of the mother's voice when talking to another adult and when talking to their child.

Furthermore the difference in timbre was consistent across the 12 different mothers; a computer algorithm could clearly differentiate between any mother's “normal” speech and their “baby” speech.

According to Jenny Saffran, a professor of psy-

chology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, this study is significant because it focuses on changes in timbre within the relationship between mothers and babies.

“This is the first study to ask whether [mothers] also change the timbre of their voice, manipulating the kinds of features that differentiate musical instruments from one another,” Saffran said in a press release.

This new study shows that it is a unique feature of the way we speak to babies.

Next the researchers wanted to see if this timbre shift was consistent across different languages. They recruited 12 more mothers, all of whom were non-English speakers, and repeated their experiment.

According to Piazza,

the quantified timbre shift was consistent; the difference in timbre for a mother speaking English wasn't significantly different from a mother speaking Mandarin, Polish or Russian.

“These shifts in timbre between adult-directed and infant-directed speech may represent a universal form of communication that mothers implicitly use to engage their babies and support their language learning,” Piazza said in a press release.

The next step of this research is to study exactly how timbre shifts affect a baby's learning. It is currently believed that this difference in timbre may be what helps babies distinguish their mother's voice from other noises and sounds they hear.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Researchers quantified the voice shift that occurs when mothers speak to their infant children.

Wrap up: the latest in technology...

By **WILLIAM XIE**
Staff Writer

iPhone X pre-orders released and demand is soaring

Last Friday, Apple released its pre-order for the long anticipated iPhone X. The first batch of pre-orders, expected to ship in two to three weeks, sold out in minutes.

Although Apple stopped publically announcing the initial supply of new iPhones years ago, market analyst Daniel Ives expects a demand of 40 million units but only about 20 million units available to sell by the end of the fourth quarter. According to *Apple Insider*, a KGI analyst believes there will be a lack of supply of the iPhone X due to constraints in flexible circuit board production.

Pre-order is not the only way to get the new phone, however. Apple has confirmed that there will be iPhone X's available in stores for walk in customers. On Nov. 3 at 8:00 a.m., retail stores across 55 countries will carry the iPhone X. The retail price for the iPhone X is starting at \$999 in the U.S.

Walmart plans to deploy in-store shelf scanning robots

Robots are often used to improve efficiency in warehouses. Walmart has announced, however, that robots will soon be introduced and used for work inside more than 50 retail stores. The fully autonomous robots are supposed to complete “repeatable, predictable and manual” jobs.

More specifically, the robots, created by Bossa Nova Robotics, are expected to audit the shelves. The robots are equipped with 3D imaging technology allowing them to avoid and report obstacles. An on-site technician is required to manage the robot. Walmart emphasized that the robots will supplement workers, not replace them.

Walmart claims the robots will not result in unemployment. The robots still have a long way to go to replace all human functionality. Current limitations in the robots prevent stocking potentially heavy or fragile items.

YouTube captures over 100 million TV hours daily

Google CEO Sundar Pichai announced during Google's quarter three earnings call that Smart TVs have officially marked 100 million hours of YouTube viewing. It was also revealed this year that there are over one billion hours of YouTube watched daily. Mobile devices make up approximately half of the billion hours.

Not only does YouTube total an unbelievable lengthy watch time, it also has a very high estimated ad viewability rate, which is the percentage of ads seen by a viewer. Compared to the overall industry's 60 percent ad viewability rate, YouTube has an estimated 95 percent ad viewability rate. The data disclosed during the quarterly earnings call demonstrates the growing potential for YouTube's ad-based revenue.

Amazon's basic Kindle will soon support Audible

Amazon's Kindle Oasis and its cheapest \$80 model kindle will support Audible, an Amazon-owned audiobook company. The only drawback to the addition is that in order to listen to the audiobooks, kindle owners must use bluetooth speakers or headphones as the regular audiojack will not work. The new update is expected to be released in the coming months.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

DNA shows Easter Island inhabitants had little Native American contact.

Study shows CRISPR can reverse mutations

By ELAINE CHIAO
For *The News-Letter*

In the past few years, the scientific community has been characterized by surges of novel genetic discoveries, and this trend seems to be persisting globally.

This August, scientists in the United States successfully edited a human embryo by removing a mutation that would have caused heart disease. Additionally, just last month, researchers working at the Chinese Academy of Sciences created the first group of genetically modified "low-fat" pigs.

All of these advances in genetics have been achieved through a technique known as CRISPR, which is an acronym that stands for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats.

CRISPR is a family of DNA sequences commonly found in bacteria that have previously been exposed to viral infection. These sequences help to permanently modify genes.

The spreading of the CRISPR technique can be predominantly traced back to five years ago. At that time, only approximately 150 published papers during the year had the word CRISPR as part of their titles. However, today that number has rapidly increased to somewhere in the thousands.

The scope of CRISPR-based research has also expanded because of the introduction of two new concepts. First, researchers began to manipulate RNA rather than DNA.

In addition, small-scale DNA alterations became feasible and are slowly replacing the massive scope of changes that requires disrupting the entire DNA double helix structure.

These advances were separately announced by researchers at the Broad Institute located in Cambridge, Mass. and the journal *Science*, respectively.

Despite the lack of a straightforward connection between the two studies, the popularization of these tools have directly impacted the understanding of CRISPR.

Eugene Koonin, a genomics researcher at the National Institutes of Health, is particularly intrigued by the RNA method.

RNA serves as the intermediate communicator between DNA and proteins. If DNA is analogous

to a library full of books, RNA would be the person in charge of recording a second copy of the contents in the books to share with others.

As a consequence, although CRISPR generally results in a permanent change in the editing target, any similar manipulations that use RNA would only yield short-term changes.

In other words, the information in the library would not be damaged even if the recorder erases his notes. This is why Koonin believes the RNA method could be used to more effectively to treat temporary conditions such as inflammation.

There are various different types of mutations that can occur with these base pairs, one of which is known as a point mutation in which one pair is swapped out for another.

The most deleterious form of point mutation known to humans, and possibly the majority of other species on this planet, is the transition of a G-C base pair into an A-T base pair.

David Liu, currently a chemistry professor at Harvard University and an author of the *Science* study, explained why this particular mutation is so harmful.

"This class of mutation, changing G-C to A-T, accounts for about half of the 32,000 known pathogenic point mutations in humans," Liu said to *The Washington Post*.

A problem associated with DNA editing is that it would be difficult to alter permanent changes. The RNA tool, in this regard, is useful because of its ability to edit a single base and potentially revert point mutations.

Feng Zhang, a molecular biologist at the biomedical research facility at the Broad Institute and another author of the study published in *Science*, has worked with his colleagues for many years to investigate mutations in mammalian RNA.

"With RNA, once you stop giving the RNA editing REPAIR system then those changes will be reverted back," Zhang said to *The Washington Post*.

Although the future trajectory of CRISPR is still not certain, Zhang believes it has emerged as a field in genetic engineering loaded with many possibilities.

Panel discussed features of space medicine

SPACE, PAGE B7

elaborate procedures," Feinberg said. They would draw the blood, it was put it on a spacecraft, sent to Kazakhstan, then flown by jet to NASA in Houston where we could do the next steps."

In order to solve this problem, he and his research team boarded a zero-gravity airplane to test the plausibility of running molecular biology experiments in a microgravity environment. They tested multiple pipetting methods and were delighted to find that just a simple micropipette produced very accurate results.

"It was just as easy, if not easier, to do pipetting in space as it is on the ground," Feinberg said.

Next they arranged for certain molecular biology experiments to be conducted on the spacecraft, eliminating the need to always fly samples back and forth.

Feinberg also discussed studying the psychological and behavioral effects that long-term space travel and isolation have on people. Mental health has often been overlooked when selecting astronauts, but investigations have determined that it is essential in ensuring the safety of the crew and the success of the mission.

The lecture drew to a close, and audience members had opportunities to ask questions to the speakers.

Sophomore Michelle Chiu, CiM chair of WPHLS, said that organizing CiM every month is not an easy task.

"The hardest part is definitely figuring out who people would like to hear from," Chiu said.

With the diverse interests of the Hopkins student body, Chiu and the rest of the leadership team try to make their CiMs informative and engaging for everyone.

Chiu also spoke about the challenging of accounting for the speakers' availabilities, their willingness to take time out of their schedule and the logistics of organizing their trip to Hopkins.

Luckily, Chiu thinks that the benefits of holding these events far outweigh the challenges.

"Nothing beats seeing the



COURTESY OF SABRINA CHEN

Feinberg (center) shared his experiences in NASA research with Hopkins faculty and students.

event come together, when everyone has eaten and is sitting down and anticipating the beginning of the presentation," Chiu said. "When I see people excited to learn or engaged and actively participating in discussion, I know we've managed to put together something that is interesting and applicable to them, and that's just so rewarding."

Chiu added that the goal of CiM is to expose the student body to different aspects of medicine, different areas of study and different ways of thinking.

According to Chiu, in the past, CiM has hosted a plethora of different guest speakers, including a medical patent lawyer, an art-

ist who illustrates surgery incisions, an official in charge of law-enforcement medicine, a physician-author, a forensic specialist and now a professor in space medicine.

"All these different speakers come in to talk about what they're passionate about," Chiu said, "and I hope that after seeing how all of these respected experts have built their careers around their own interests in medicine, all in very unique ways, people will realize that you don't have to be like everyone else to pursue what you love and be an impactful and successful health professional," Chiu said.

Ataxia event brings together patients and volunteers

ATAXIA, PAGE B7

slurred speech, blurred vision, uncoordinated gait and parallelism.

Much of Therrien's talk concerned recent research on the impact of ataxia on goal-directed movements, such as reaching for an object. She explained that studies comparing the movement of those with ataxia and those without suggested that the brains of ataxia patients often incorrectly estimated the weight of a limb, leading to difficulty with motor skills.

Since there is currently no treatment for ataxia, and scientists do not fully understand the disease's underlying cause, patients have to rely on physical, occupational and speech therapy, are used to manage its effects. Unfortunately, these therapies are unsuccessful in a significant number of patients.

"Cerebellar damage impairs the dominant mechanism for learning," Therrien said.

Instead, researchers in the Motion Analysis Lab have begun trying a method called reinforcement learning, in an attempt to bypass learning mechanisms that involve the cerebellum.

The Arts for Ataxia event also included a discussion and Q&A with four members of the Johns Hopkins Ataxia Center Advisory Board: Ed Dixon, Brian Sullivan, Paula Gill and John Cernosek. Dixon, Sullivan and Gill's spouses were all diagnosed with ataxia, while Cernosek was diagnosed with Friedreich's ataxia 14 years ago.

The four panelists discussed the realities of life with ataxia.

"When you talk about the important parts of your identity, ataxia comes up in the first four or five

things," Sullivan said, explaining its impact.

One focus was the individuals' experiences with doctors, both positive and negative.

"Never assume you [the doctor] know more than the patient," Cernosek said. "No matter how many books you've read, no matter how many years of research you've done, we're living it every day."

Another theme during the discussion was the importance of interdisciplinary research. Two fields at the center of this are neuroscience and genetics since ataxia can be hereditary.

Therrien shared the importance of cross-departmental research.

"[I'm] a big proponent of disciplines working together. It's the best opportunity to come up with new ideas," Therrien said.

In addition to the speakers, the event featured performances by three student groups. Flutist Michelle Chung and clarinetist Melissa Chang, who make up the duo MC2, performed first, followed by the cappella group Adoremus and the string quartet Wu-Yang CLAnne.

Volunteers at the event, who came from the Ataxia Ambassadors club, learned not only from the presenters, but from speaking with the patients and caregivers themselves.

"At first I didn't know what to expect at all," Ryan Teshima, a freshman member of Ataxia Ambassadors,



COURTESY OF MELISSA CHANG

Hopkins' Ataxia Ambassadors club incorporated a new speaker panel into their annual event.

said. "But once we got a chance to talk with the patients, listen to their stories, and hear the panel speak, I thought it was a very eye-opening experience, being able to hear about what it's like living with ataxia."

This year, the event organizers worked with the Mid-Atlantic ataxia network and Donna Neuworth, the ataxia depart-

ment community relations coordinator, to increase attendance.

In following years, the club is also interested in having the event coincide with International Ataxia Day, in late September.

"Overall it made me really happy to see the interactions between everyone in attendance," Bhethanabotla said.

Ebola shown to increase cataracts risk in survivors

EBOLA, PAGE B7

through for the past two years, even with the same doctors," he told a group of Sierra Leonean patients preparing for treatment, according to *The New York Times*.

Crozier received cataract surgery in March of 2017, after tests for the Ebola virus in his eye finally came back negative.

By the summer of 2017, he and several fellow doctors examined around 50 West African Ebola survivors with cataracts.

The surgeons would begin by "tapping" the eye. This involves drawing fluid

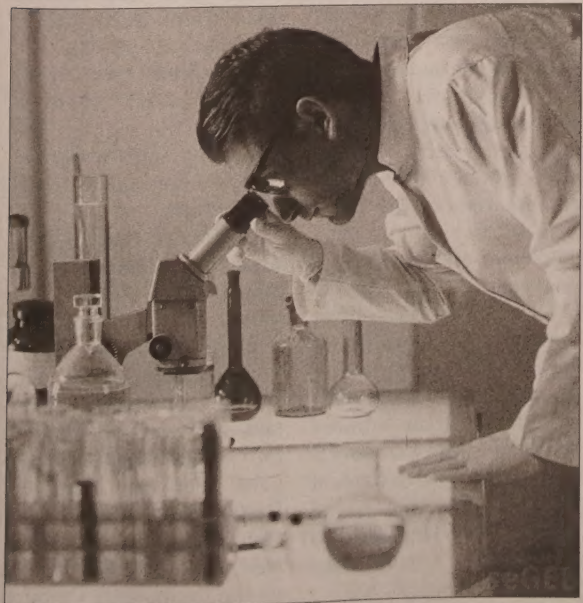
out through a thin needle inserted into the eye, and then the surgeon would test to see if the virus was present.

If not, the patient could then undergo surgery.

For some, the outcome of the surgery has improved vision.

Others have faced complications from inflammation of the optic nerve or dangerously low eye pressure, which could cause the organ to collapse during surgery.

The goal for now is to ensure as many survivors with cataracts as possible receive the treatment they need.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

New CRISPR method makes small-scale changes to reverse gene mutations.

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: ELLIE CLAWSON — CROSS COUNTRY

By COURTNEY COLWELL
For The News-Letter

This past Sunday, the Hopkins women's cross country team traveled to Gettysburg, Pa. for the Centennial Conference Championship.

In what will surely go down as a historic day, the Jays won their 10th straight Centennial Conference title and placed all seven runners in the top 25.

With four runners walking away with first-team All-Conference honors, this week's title could go to any number of athletes. For her first place finish in a field of 100 runners, though, this week's Athlete of the Week is junior Ellie Clawson.

Clawson has been an integral part of the women's cross-country team for quite some time now. Last season, she was named to the All-Centennial Conference Second Team for



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Ellie Clawson finished first on Sunday.

her 10th-place finish in the Conference Championship.

She also garnered All-Regional honors in her sophomore season. This season's meets have brought about another slew of accomplishments and personal bests.

Placing third in the Pre-Nationals meet in early October, Clawson led the Jays in their first place victory at Principia College. Earlier this year she also achieved a personal best in the Paul Short Run with a time of 20:41 in the 6K.

This weekend, with an impressive time of 21:17.8, Clawson became the eighth Centennial Conference individual winner for the Jays. In the process, the junior star earned not only first team honors, but she was also named the Centennial Conference Runner of the Year.

Following this stellar performance, Clawson discussed with *The News-Letter* what the Centennial Conference Championship meant for the women's cross country program.

The News-Letter: Does

the team have any pre-race superstitions? Alternatively, how do you handle pre-race jitters?

Ellie Clawson: We are not very superstitious, although we have certain songs that we play before all of our races, some of which include "Rake it Up," "Perm" and "Unwritten." Listening to music and just keeping it fun helps us a lot with pre-race jitters too.

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Ellie Clawson
Year: Junior
Sport: Cross Country
Major: Neuroscience
Hometown: Bellevue, Wash.
High School: Issaquah

N - L : How excited was the team to win their 10th straight Centennial Conference Championship this weekend?

EC: So excited! We have a super tight team this year, so getting that win together meant a lot. We are hoping to keep this winning streak going in meets and years to come.

N-L: Going into the race, how did you feel about your chances? Did you have any idea you would be a contender to win the race?

EC: My sister, Kenna, asked me the week [before the race] what my goal was, and that was actually the first time I thought about it. I then realized that it was

possible that I could win, so I kept that as a goal in the back of my mind and stuck with it.

N-L: How did it feel to be named Centennial Conference Runner of the Year?

EC: Pretty incredible. When I started running here as a freshman, even at the beginning of this season, I never would've thought that I could come close to being Runner of the Year.

What really made that moment special though was being surrounded by my favorite people in the world: my team (my second family), my coaches and my actual family.

Those are the amazing people I run for, and I honestly could not have won without everyone's support. My mom and sister actually flew all the way from Seattle to watch, and my sister surprised me! I had no idea she was coming.

N-L: Moving forward, do you have any personal goals for the remainder of the season?

EC: I just want to keep doing everything I can to help this team be successful.

I want to finish these last couple races knowing I gave everything I could, hopefully finishing with the top group of women in both races.

W. Soccer finishes with an undefeated season



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Hopkins won both their games this week against Gettysburg and F&M.

By BRANDON WOLFE
For The News-Letter

The Hopkins women's soccer team won their ninth and 10th Centennial Conference contests this season after defeating the Gettysburg College Bullets 4-1 on last Wednesday, which they followed up with a 2-0 victory against the Franklin & Marshall College Diplomats on Saturday.

The Jays got started quickly on Wednesday in Gettysburg when senior forward Michelle Santangelo capitalized on a Hopkins corner kick, finding the loose ball in front of the Bullets' goaltender. After a scramble, Santangelo found the back of the net just after the six-minute mark to put the Blue Jays up 1-0.

Continuing the early momentum for the Jays was freshman forward Riley O'Toole, who, just 10 minutes after Santangelo got the Jays on the scoreboard, launched a shot from the deep left half of the field that carried into the right side of the Gettysburg goal, putting Hopkins up 2-0.

Santangelo and O'Toole would continue to light up the scoreboard in the second half, with the two combining to put the Jays up 3-0 near the 47-minute mark. O'Toole hurled a cross from the left half of the field and found Santangelo in the middle of the box.

Gettysburg would battle back to get the score within two goals when defender Jessica Cuttone laced a pass that found forward Isabel Klatt in the open field on a breakaway. Klatt's shot would beat the Jays' senior goalie Bess Kitzmiller to put the Bullets on the board near the 52-minute mark.

However, Hopkins would put the nail in the coffin with a goal from sophomore midfielder Emily Maheras near the 69-minute mark.

The sophomore tipped in a corner kick from senior defender Hallie Horvath to cement the Hopkins victory as the Blue Jays went on to win by a final score of 4-1.

Kitzmiller picked up her ninth win of the year with her four-save performance against the Bullets that would clinch the number one seed in the Centennial Conference Tournament for the Jays. This is the seventh time Hopkins has held the No. 1 seed in the Tournament since 2001.

Much like Wednesday's matchup, Saturday's

game against the Franklin & Marshall Diplomats kicked off with a goal from Santangelo that went off the Diplomats' goalkeeper and into the net to put Hopkins up 1-0. It was only slightly over 18 minutes into the contest that Santangelo scored her 15th goal and 34th point of the season, both of which rank second in the Centennial.

Keeping consistent with the game against Gettysburg, O'Toole once again notched the second goal of the game with an assist from Santangelo early in the second half to give the Blue Jays a 2-0 lead, which would hold for the remainder of the game. O'Toole's 12 goals and 26 points both rank third in the Conference.

Kitzmiller once again picked up a win, having two saves in the shutout victory with sophomore goalie Robyn Lipschultz also contributing a save.

Sophomore midfielder Carly Lupton-Smith discussed the team's mindset going into the last week of their regular season.

"We went into the games last week so excited for the possibility of an undefeated Conference record, and I think we played with a lot of confidence. We've been improving each game, and we're ready to carry this momentum into the Conference Tournament," Lupton-Smith said.

The game was the last regular season contest for seven seniors, with Kitzmiller, Santangelo, defender Leslie Bruni, forward Bailey Monaco, midfielder Sophie Murphy, defender Thea Harvey-Brown and Horvath all honored for senior day. The seven have won a pair of Centennial Conference titles and have advanced to the NCAA Tournament three times during their four years at Hopkins.

The Blue Jays finish with an overall record of 15-2-1 on the regular season along with a perfect 10-0 Centennial Conference record.

"We can't wait to play some tough competition at home for the seniors' last tournament and hopefully come out with a win," Lupton-Smith said.

The top-seeded Blue Jays will face off against the winner of the play-in game between the McDaniel Green Terror and Gettysburg on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Homewood Field in the Centennial Conference Tournament's semifinal round.

Field Hockey wins Conference with two late goals

By GREG MELICK
Sports Editor

The stakes were high in the face-off between Hopkins and the 13th-ranked Franklin & Marshall College Diplomats this weekend as the winning team would secure first place in the Centennial Conference and home-field advantage for the entirety of the Conference Playoffs.

The first half of the matchup was dominated by the defense on both sides. The Jays ended the half with three saves and the Diplomats with two. As neither team scored in the first half, the Conference title would be decided in the last 35 minutes of the regular season play.

Eighteen minutes into the second half, the Diplomats capitalized on a penalty corner. Forward Emily Nagle passed the ball into midfielder Annie Horsley, who rifled a shot into the lower corner of the goal to put the Diplomats up 1-0.

While the F&M defense remained stout for the majority of the second half,

the Jays chipped away, finding more and more opportunities to score as the game weaned on. While the Jays managed only two shots in the first half, they saw 11 shots in the second.

One of those shots came with only four minutes remaining on the clock, as senior forward Morgan Pothast weaved through a series of Diplomat defenders before crossing a pass to fellow senior forward Princess Sutherland directly in front of the goal. Sutherland scored easily to tie the game at one a piece.

Nevertheless, the Jays were not done yet. With just over a minute left to play, the Jays were awarded a penalty corner, which was taken by senior forward Clare Kavanagh. Kavanagh passed to Sutherland, who shot at the F&M goal but was blocked by the Diplomats' goalie Ilianna Santangelo. However, the rebound then went straight to Kavanagh, who flipped a shot past Santangelo to put Hopkins

up with only 59 seconds remaining in the game. In just four minutes, the game did a complete 180.

The last minute of play was nerve-racking for the Jays, but the approach was simple: Play 59 seconds of defense, and the Conference Championship would be theirs for the first time since 2000. The Jays managed to hold off the Diplomats and won the game by a final score of 2-1.

Kavanagh discussed the team's philosophy.

"Our team has developed a tradition of grit all over the field, specifically our recovery defense and persistence in the play was instrumental to our win," Kavanagh said.

The win cemented a historic season for the Jays, which was made even more impressive by the fact that they were led by first-year Head Coach Jane Wells. Hopkins ends the season at 13-3, which is the team's best record since 1999.

"Jane [Wells] has consistently structured practice with technical drills that expand into larger tactical drills, and the flow of practices have been seamless," Kavanagh said. "One game we play regularly is actually a four-minute full-field scrimmage with the assumption that one team is down a goal."

That drill ended up being the exact situation the Jays found themselves in on Saturday against the Diplomats. This kind of preparedness is what allowed Hopkins to come from behind and win against a nationally ranked team.

The great performance

by both Kavanagh and the Jays earned Kavanagh the Centennial Conference Offensive player of the week award for this week. It is the first time in her career she has won the award.

While all the accomplishments this team has achieved are very impressive, the Blue Jays know that their job is not done yet. They still have the Conference Tournament left to play, which will be anything but a cakewalk considering the numerous strong teams in the Centennial Conference.

"Moving forward, we are dedicated to consciously improving every day. We have to outwork every team this week because the Centennial Conference is so competitive," Kavanagh said.

Fortunately for the Jays, their two biggest opponents in the Conference, Franklin & Marshall and the Ursinus College Bears, will be facing each other in the semifinals of the Conference Tournament. The Jays will face the winner of the Haverford College and Washington College matchup in their semifinal game.

Ursinus was the only Conference team to beat Hopkins during the regular season. However, with their increased confidence as well as their home-field advantage, the Blue Jays will be the favorites to win the Conference and punch their tickets to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2003.

Hopkins will play their semifinal game Friday, Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m. on Homewood Field against the Fords of Haverford College.

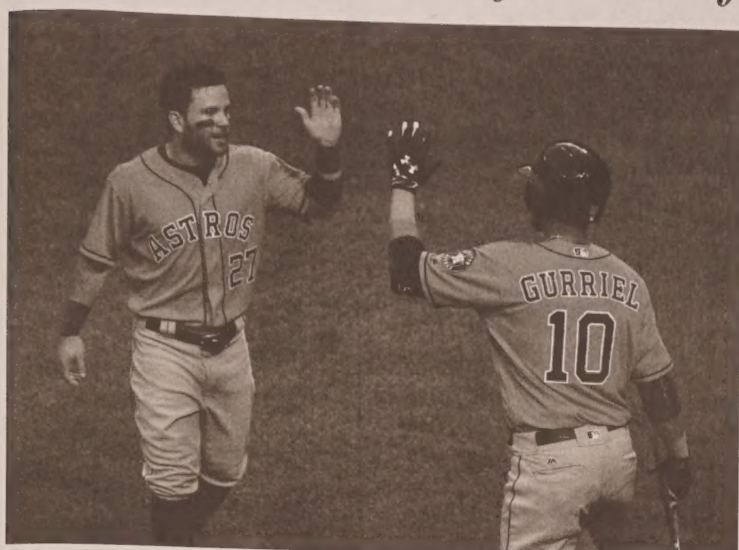


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The Jays won the regular season Conference Championship on Saturday.

SPORTS

Houston Astros win firework-filled World Series



KEITH ALLISON/CC BY 2.0

The Houston Astros won their first World Series in franchise history, beating the LA Dodgers.



Greg Melick
Sportpinion

This World Series was one of the wildest series I can recall in all my time as a baseball fan. There were records broken all over the place, and while that may have been due to "juiced" baseballs, it did not take anything away from the amazing series we witnessed over the last week.

For the second straight year, a team broke a 50-plus-year World Series drought, with the Houston Astros beating the Los Angeles Dodgers in a riveting seven-game series. It was the first championship for the Astros, who first joined the MLB as the Houston Colt .45s in 1962.

While that first game did not have quite the level of theatrics other games had, it had lots of home runs, which was a theme of the entire series.

The series did not start off well for the Astros, as Chris Taylor sent the first pitch the Astros threw into the seats for a home run off of Dallas Keuchel.

In the fourth inning, Houston's Alex Bregman hit his first of what would be six home runs to tie the game, which is a new World Series record.

Not to be outdone, the Dodgers responded in the bottom of the sixth with a two-run homer from Justin Turner that would end up being the difference. It was the first of eight home runs to give a team the lead, which is also a World Series record.

After game one, the real fun began. Game two proved to be one of the best games in not only World Series history, but in my opinion, all of baseball history.

While the Astros struck first with a run in the third inning, Los Angeles' Joc Pederson got the Dodgers' first hit of the game off of Justin Verlander in the fifth inning with a home run to tie the game. The next inning, Cory Seager got the Dodgers' second hit of the game with a two-run home run to give his team a two-run lead.

With the Dodgers' bullpen in the game, most people thought the game was over and the Dodgers would take a 2-0 lead in the series.

Their bullpen had been

virtually unhittable the entire postseason, which is part of the reason why manager Dave Roberts pulled starter Rich Hill after only four innings and 60 pitches.

In the eighth inning, however, they finally showed they were human. Roberts brought in star closer Kenley Jansen to try and save the inning after a leadoff double by the Astros' third baseman, Alex Bregman.

While Jansen got American League MVP José Altuve to ground out, he could not get past Carlos Correa, who hit an RBI single up the middle to bring the Astros within one run.

In the ninth, Marwin González led off and had what I believe was the most important at-bat of the series. With no balls and two strikes on him, Gonzalez hit a line drive to center field that got over the fence to tie the game.

That at-bat was essential to the Astros, because it was the first sign that Kenley Jansen was not perfect. It was the first earned run he gave up the entire postseason, which eventually would help swing what could have been a 2-0 deficit into a 1-1 series.

In extra-innings, the real mayhem began. The Astros hit three home runs in the extra frames, while the Dodgers hit two. The two runs the Astros scored in the 10th were answered by the Dodgers thanks in part to a home run by Yasiel Puig.

In the 11th, eventual World Series MVP George Springer would hit his first of five home runs in the series. Though the Dodgers got a home run from Charlie Culberson in the bottom of the inning, they could not overcome the Astros, and the series got tied at 1-1.

The game involved eight home runs, five of which either tied the game or gave the team the lead. Six of the home runs also occurred in the ninth inning or later — all of which are World Series records.

The series was now set at 1-1, as both teams flew to Houston for games three through five.

While game three was not quite as dramatic as game two, it started right where game two left off, as Yuli Gurriel hit a solo home run in the second inning to start off the scoring. The Astros rode the momentum and had three more runs, putting them up 4-0 and getting Yu Darvish out of the game.

The Astros held their

eight innings, as the Astros only managed one hit — a home run of course — and the Dodgers only managed four hits. Neither team had any runs for the first eight innings of the game.

The ninth inning, however, was dominated by the Dodgers. They scored five runs in the inning, capped off by a three-run home run by Pederson. The Astros attempted to come back in the bottom of the ninth, as Bregman hit a home run to inch them closer, but the deficit was too large for them to overcome, and the Dodgers tied the series at two with the 6-2 win over the Astros.

Game five was the wildest of them all. The Dodgers came out swinging, scoring three runs in just the first inning. They eventually stretched their lead to four before the Astros stormed back with four runs of their own in the bottom of the fourth, thanks to the three-run home run by Gurriel that tied up the game.

From there on, it was absolute mayhem. L.A.'s star rookie Cody Bellinger hit a three-run home run, and the two teams continued to trade home runs back and forth, with three by the Astros and one by the Dodgers.

The game eventually went to extra innings when the Dodgers scored three runs in the ninth to tie the game. In the 10th inning, the Astros put together a two-out rally and eventually won on a walk-off single by Bregman.

The seven home runs in the game pushed the home run total for the series to 22, breaking the previous World Series record. It also saw the seventh different Astros player, Brian McCann, to homer in the series. Combined with the seven Dodgers players who hit home runs, this is the largest number of players to homer in a single World Series.

Game six managed to come back to Earth after the absurdities in game five. The Astros hit their typical George Springer home run to open up the scoring in the third. The Dodgers were held in check by pitcher Justin Verlander until the sixth inning, when they used two hits and a hit-by-pitch to scratch across two runs and take the lead.

They added an insurance run in the seventh on Joc Pederson's third homer of the Series. The Dodgers trusted Jansen on the mound to get a six-out

lead, relying on the great pitching of Lance McCullers Jr. and Brad Peacock to hold the potent Dodgers offense to only three runs and four hits, taking a 2-1 lead in the series.

The next night was a pitcher's duel for the first

save after he had given up runs in his three previous appearances against the Astros. The day off, combined with being back at home, obviously helped Jansen, as he got all six outs in just 20 pitches to force a game seven.

After a leadoff double by Springer, Bellinger made a throwing error to score the first run of the game. After a stolen base, Altuve's ground out gave them a 2-0 lead.

The second inning went just as poorly for the Dodgers, with the Astros scoring three more runs to take a 5-0 lead on the back of another home run by Springer.

The Astros used a medley of pitching to secure the lead. McCullers went two and one third before being pulled for Brad Peacock. After using both Francisco Liriano and Chris Devenski for one out, Charlie Morton pitched a stellar final four innings to win it all.

This series was the best World Series I have ever seen because of all the drama and action that went into the games. Past years dominated by pitching are fun to some people, but everyone loves home run filled games. It may be because of different baseballs, and if the baseballs are truly different I think it is unfair to pitchers.

With so many pitchers complaining about the balls, it is hard for me to believe that there really is no difference between the playoff baseballs and the regular season baseballs.

With great pitchers such as Yu Darvish pitching completely out of character, something seems fishy. Darvish has pitched in the playoffs before, so it cannot be just nerves that caused him to give up eight earned runs in only three and one third innings pitched in the World Series.

No matter why the home run numbers are increasing, there is definitely a shift in the style of baseball being played. Just three years ago, there were nearly 2000 fewer home runs hit than this year.

This style of play is much more exciting than the no-hitters and perfect games thrown in 2014, and that resulted in one of the best World Series in the history of baseball.

Hopkins Medical student wins Baltimore Marathon

By EMILIE HOFFER
Sports Editor

When fourth-year medical student Jordan Tropf gathered with thousands of other runners for the start of the 17th Annual Baltimore Marathon on Oct. 21, he expected to be competitive and race with the frontrunners. What Tropf did not expect was to win the race by over three full minutes. At his pace, this meant he was over a half a mile in front of the second-place finisher.

Tropf managed to edge out the two-time champion of the Baltimore Marathon, Dave Berdan of Owings Mills, Md., who won the race in 2013 and 2015.

"I went out pretty hard, and nobody came with me," Tropf said. "I got out in front, opened up a bit of a gap and just held it the whole time."

Tropf started the race out strong from the gun, completing the first six miles in just over 33 minutes. The 2014 Naval Academy graduate was on his own running past the Maryland Zoo, looping around Montebello Lake and then crossing the Howard Street Bridge. By the time he made it to the Pratt

Street finish, there was not another runner in sight.

However, this meant Tropf was on his own to manage his pace and push himself to the finish of his first-ever Baltimore Marathon. Tropf crossed the line in a winning time of 2:29:06, averaging a 5:41 mile throughout the 26.2 mile race.

Thousands of runners followed in Tropf's wake as he crossed the Pratt Street finish line, a new addition to the course this year, which gave runners a view of Baltimore's Inner Harbor as they crossed the finish.

"I did not expect to be alone the entire time," Tropf said. "But all my training is completely on my own, so it wasn't the most uncomfortable thing in the world."

In his final year of medical school, Tropf, who was a member of the cross country team at Navy, managed to maintain his fitness and continue training while applying for residencies and working on away rotations.

Tropf has not logged a single mile in his past five years of training but rather gauges his training based on what his body feels on a day-to-day basis.

"I just go out there every day and do what I feel like. I don't write it down or analyze my plan or my diet," Tropf said. "The big reason is because sometimes you get stuck in the hospital or have other things going on, and I don't like looking back and seeing this big hole in my training. If you go by feel, you don't dwell on some of your setbacks."

While this was Tropf's first time competing in the Baltimore Marathon, the 25-year-old is no stranger to the distance, having raced in four Marine

Corps Marathons, two Boston Marathons, two New York Marathons, a Chicago marathon and a Disney marathon.

"I like to do [a marathon] every fall and spring,"

Tropf said. "I love racing them, and I love going places to race them. It is always something I look forward to every race season."

This past April, Tropf participated in the Boston Marathon, finishing as Maryland's top runner in 51st place overall in a field consisting of over 30,000 runners.

Additionally, just two weeks ago Tropf toed the line of the Chicago Marathon, finishing in 58th. With the Baltimore Marathon complete, Tropf has run his last three marathons all under two hours and 30 minutes.

This weekend, Tropf will wrap up his racing season as he travels up to New York to compete in his third New York City Marathon on Sunday, Nov. 5.

"I got out in front, opened up a bit of a gap and just held it the whole time."

— JORDAN TROPF,
HOPKINS MEDICAL
STUDENT

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SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

The field hockey team finished their regular season with a 13-3 record, which is their best winning percentage as a team since 1999.

CALENDAR

Friday
Field Hockey vs. Haverford, 12:30 p.m.
M. Soccer vs. Dickinson, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday
Volleyball vs. McDaniel, 1 p.m.
W. Soccer vs. McDaniel, 2:30 p.m.

What the future might hold for U.S. men's soccer



Mohid Khan
Sportpinion

If you are anything like myself, your upcoming summer was ruined about two weeks ago. After waiting four long years, the FIFA World Cup was just around the corner, just months away. But for the first time since 1986 the U.S. failed to qualify.

Every four years, the World Cup entertains the better part of my summer. I am glued to the TV, eager to see how the U.S. national team will fare against tough international competition.

Being eliminated from participating in the World Cup by Trinidad and Tobago is heart-breaking for U.S. soccer fans everywhere.

Nevertheless, instead of sending off the stars of this generation — Clint Dempsey and fan-favorite goalie Tim Howard — with one last hurrah this season, we are left to eulogize their accomplishments in hopes of discovering young Americans who can live up to and hopefully exceed their legacies.

Tim Howard won the hearts of many Americans after setting a World Cup record of 16 saves in one game, and Clint Dempsey is considered the best American player to ever play the game.

Although it may be hard to think about the future, all hope is not lost. For example, Christian Pulisic, the young Borussia Dortmund midfielder from Hershey, Pa. has exceptional playmaking skills that could carry the U.S. team far.

Dortmund is one of Europe's most prestigious clubs and is consistently competitive for the Bundesliga, Germany's top league title.

Pulisic's high level of talent earned him a starting position more often than not.

Even when he did not start, Pulisic was still able to assert himself, leaving his mark on every match he participated in. In 42 appearances, he tallied five goals and 12 assists.

The young American winger even played well enough to make Dortmund's Champions League lineup, starting

in six of the 10 games that Dortmund played.

His efforts helped propel his team to the top of their group, despite being in a group that included Real Madrid, arguably the biggest powerhouse currently in the soccer world.

Along with all of Pulisic's talents, he has the one intangible trait of a champion: He does not shy away from the big moment.

It was his goal in the Round of 16 which earned Dortmund a spot in the tournament's quarter finals.

With his speed and creativity, Pulisic is a nightmare for defenders.

As Pulisic continues to hone his skills in Europe, he hopefully will come home and not only help earn a qualifying spot but also position the U.S. national team to succeed in the next World Cup.

In addition to Pulisic, Josh Sargent is another bright prospect.

After leading the U.S. Under-17 team to World Cup qualification, he received a call up to the Under-20s, despite not playing in the Under-20 qualifiers.

In the Under-17 tournament, he scored five goals and had two assists, including two scores against Mexico.

Who knows? Maybe that devastating loss is what fuels Pulisic to push his game to a new level.

After he turns 18, Sargent will be eligible to sign with a European club to compete against the world's best and refine his skills alongside the current stars of the soccer world.

More and more European clubs — likely motivated by the quick rise of Pulisic — have been scouting and signing young Americans.

In other words, American talent is receiving global recognition.

Regardless of the silver lining, American fans, like the members of the national team, will be left to watch the World Cup this upcoming summer, envying fans of competing nations.

But still, these two budding stars do give us a lot to look forward to.

Who knows? Maybe that devastating loss to Trinidad and Tobago is what fuels Pulisic to push his game to a new level and inspires Sargent to ensure that the U.S. qualifies for the 2022 World Cup.

Although we may not be able to watch the United States in the World Cup next year, we certainly can watch the development of Pulisic and Sargent along with other young U.S. talent.

Jays secure first seed in Conference Tournament



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
The women's field hockey team secured home-field advantage for the Centennial Conference Tournament this past weekend with an exciting win over the 13th-ranked Franklin & Marshall Diplomats. The Blue Jays won with a goal by senior forward and midfielder Clare Kavanagh, made with only 59 seconds remaining on the clock. Both Hopkins goals were scored within the last five minutes of the match. The win secures home-field advantage for the Blue Jays through the duration of the Conference tournament. They enter the post-season with the No. 1 seed in the Centennial.

B10

Hopkins med student wins Baltimore Marathon

INSIDE
Fourth-year Hopkins medical student Jordan Trops won the annual Baltimore Marathon earlier this month in convincing fashion, more than three minutes ahead of the next runner.

PAGE B11

Athlete of the Week: Ellie Clawson

Junior Ellie Clawson took the individual title in the Conference Championships this past Sunday, leading the women's cross country team to their tenth straight Conference title.

PAGE B10

W. Soccer eases into the post-season

INSIDE
With wins over both Gettysburg and Franklin & Marshall this past week, the Jays wrapped up a historic regular season and secured the top seed going into the Centennial Conference tournament.

PAGE B10

Cross Country competes in Conference Championships

By EMILIE HOFFER
Sports Editor

The Hopkins men's and women's cross country teams traveled to Gettysburg College this past Sunday morning to compete in the Centennial Conference Championships.

While the women sought to defend their 10th straight Centennial Conference title, the men were looking for their first team title since 2013. To no surprise, the women dominated the Conference yet again, winning the team title with 25 points. The Blue Jays edged out second-place Dickinson College by 41 points.

The Dickinson Red Devils finished with 66 points in the team scoring. Impressively, the top four Blue Jays all placed in the top 10.

Sophomore Lauren Jacob talked about the Conference win.

"We came into the race as strong favorites," sophomore Lauren Jacob said. "We knew if we ran like we have all season, we would come out on top."

Junior Ellie Clawson led the way for the Blue Jays, taking first place overall in the race and finishing the 6K race in a time of 21:17.8.

The race was Clawson's second fastest of her career in the 6K, as she set a personal best earlier in the season at the Paul Short Run.

For her performance, Clawson was named the Centennial Conference Runner of the Year. Clawson is now the eighth Blue

Jay to take the individual Conference title.

Hopkins now ties Dickinson College with the most individual Conference championships, set at eight. Not far behind Clawson was classmate Natalia LaSpada, who took second place overall with a time of 21:29.4.

Also finishing in the top 10 was freshman Therese Olshanski and senior Caroline Smith, who finished in fifth and sixth, respectively.

The top four Blue Jays earned first-team All-Centennial Conference honors for their individual top-10 finishes. Additionally, Olshanski was named the Conference's Freshman Runner of the Year.

Rounding out the Blue Jays' top five was Jacob, who finished just outside the top 10, crossing the line in 22:33.4. She took home an 11th-place finish and second-team All-Conference honors.

Also taking top-15 spots

in the Conference for the Blue Jays were sophomores Kristin Meek and Allison Rosen, who crossed the line seconds apart in 13th and 14th place, respectively.

Meanwhile, the men's 8K race did not

end as the Jays had hoped, as they placed second to a dominant Haverford College team for the fourth straight year.

The Blue Jays finished with 54 points in the team score, behind the Ford's almost-perfect team score of 21 points. Still, the Blue Jays were able to place their top-five scoring finishers in the top 15.

The Blue Jays were led by junior Scott Pourshalchi, who took a sixth-place finish overall. Pourshalchi finished the 8K course in 25:38.3, recording the fastest time of the day for Hopkins.

The junior earned first-team All-Centennial honors for his team-leading performance on Sunday.

Finishing close behind Pourshalchi was junior classmate Ollie Hickson, who crossed the line in 25:51.0, earning eighth place.

Rounding out the top-five were runners senior

Charles Thornton, freshman Jared Pangallozzi and senior Panth Patel. They crossed the line in 12th, 13th and 15th place, respectively.

Hickson, Thornton and Pangallozzi earned second-team All-Centennial Conference for their efforts on Sunday.

This was the Blue Jays' 10th time finishing in the top three at the Conference Championships.

Coming up, both the men and the women will toe the line for the NCAA D-III Regional Championships.

Jacob discussed the team's goals for the future.

"We definitely want to defend our Mideast title and qualify for Nationals," Jacob said. "We have put in a lot of hard work this season, and we are ready for a good race at Regionals."

The Jays will travel to Newville, Pa. for the men's and women's regional races.



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The women's cross country team won their 10th straight Conference title at Gettysburg College.